



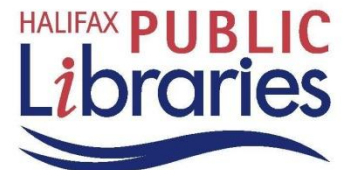
# WELCOME!

**Halifax Public Libraries**

Connecting people, enriching communities,  
inspiring discovery

**Public Consultation**

**August 25, 2010**





# Meet the Architect

**George Cotaras**

Vice-President

Fowler Bauld & Mitchell Ltd.

Halifax, Nova Scotia



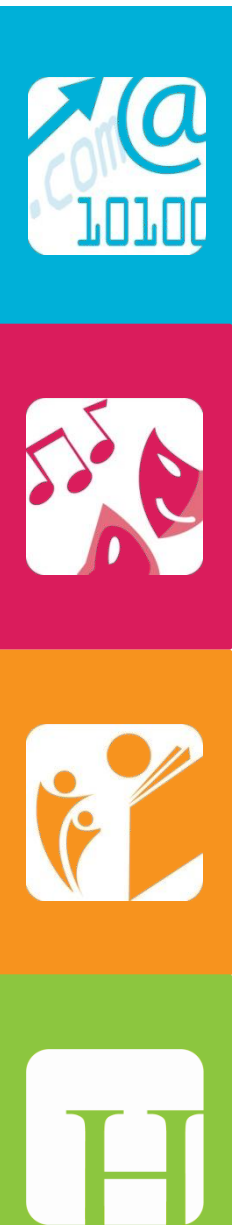
# The Story so Far...

- Public Consultations on June 10 & July 8
- Focus Groups held
  - First Nations
  - African Nova Scotians
  - New Canadians
  - Universal Access / Persons with Disabilities
  - Literacy & Learning Groups
  - Cultural Groups
  - Parents of Young Children
  - Teens
  - Young Children



# Growing Consensus

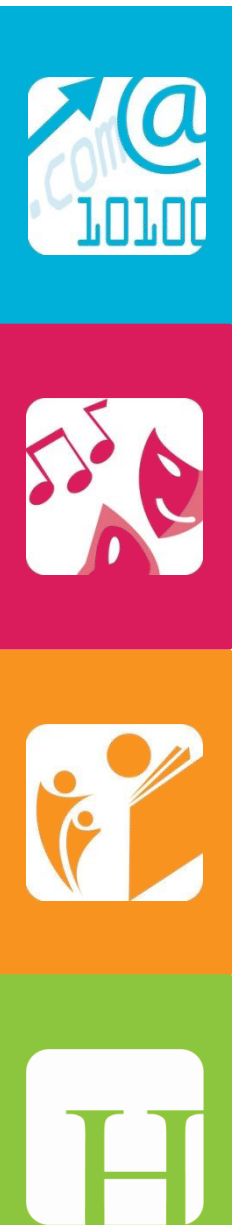
June Consultation – Big Ideas





# Growing Consensus

July Consultation – Spaces & Places



seating sit plants floor café technology noise colours centre local think see accessible  
 adult outside quiet reading art free outdoor important central  
 public water need people area Kids good city  
 sun chairs atrium performance roof bring windows place  
 green light make flexible go garden big comfortable municipality trees  
 social different staff design halifax community meeting safe walls open  
 around feel use benches groups room theatre play music everyone  
 variety easy sense overlapping inside areas children  
 parks nice work spring learning books lots programs parents city  
 great cultural outdoors new way access rooms idea signage wall keep  
 roof bring windows place garden halifax community meeting safe walls open  
 library

# Amazing Consensus on themes as we consult with everyone...

- Hub for the city
- Flexible spaces: small, quiet, intimate spaces
- Accessible and inclusive
- Facilitate social interaction and engagement
- Inspiring, innovative architecture
- Lots of natural light
- Bring nature inside



# Tonight

- Explain Sustainability and what it is
- Presentation of the design as it is today



# HRM Library Sustainability

# What we heard from the public:

You want a green building:

‘green design’ generally, specifics include:

- Connection to Nature
- Daylight
- Green roof
- Green power, alternative energy
- Bring nature indoors, Indoor park, urban garden



# Sustainability Design Team

## *Sustainability/LEED® Facilitator*

- Solterre Design – Halifax
- *Architects:*
  - FBM – Halifax
  - SHL – Copenhagen/London

## *Engineers:*

- ARUP - London
- CBCL – Halifax
- SNC Lavalin – Halifax

## *HRM + Library*

# Design Team

- Solterre:
  - all four LEED certified projects in NS
  - 60+ LEED projects under way
  - 12 projects with FBM including two certified projects
- ARUP – BREEAM
- SHL – BREEAM
- HRM – LEED Silver standard



# Why Sustainable Design?

- Canada among the most wasteful nations:
  - High energy consumption;
  - High water use;
  - High waste generation.
- If everyone used as much as the average Canadian, we'd need 4 more planets like Earth to generate resources & absorb waste  
(Suzuki Foundation).

# Building Industry

- Traditional building construction consumes:
  - 40% of the world's total energy use,
  - 30% of raw material consumption,
  - 25% of the timber harvest,
  - 35% of the world's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions,
  - 16% of the fresh water used,
  - 40% of landfill waste,
  - 50% of the ozone-depleting CFCs.

# What is Sustainable Design?

- Oxymoron
- 'less bad'
- Minimize impact by incremental improvements
- Need to make decisions that are good for the library
  - influenced by social & economic considerations



# LEED®

## Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design

- Green building rating system
- Administered by the CaGBC (Canada Green Building Council)
- 3rd party review
- 4 levels of certification – Certified, Silver, Gold, Platinum
- HRM standard is LEED Silver, library is targeting LEED Gold

# LEED Intent

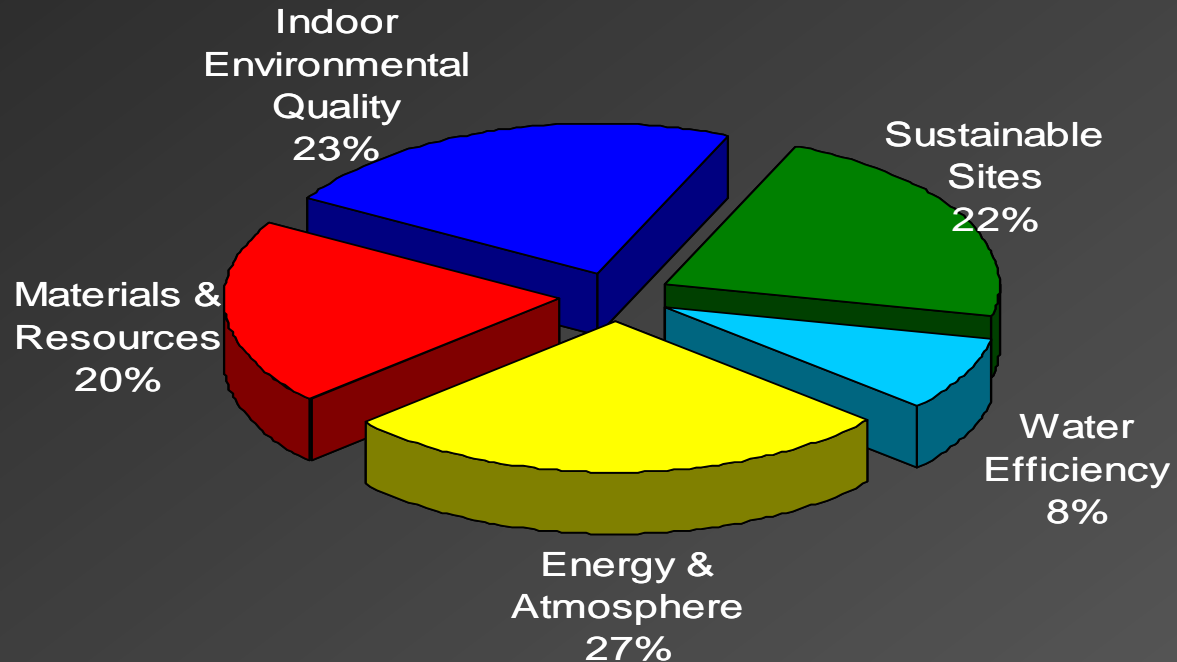
## *Mandate:*

- Transform the market
- Promote integrated design
- Recognize environmental leadership
- Raise awareness
- Prevent false claims – “Green-washing”

# LEED Rating System

LEED Canada –70 points, 7 Prerequisites

- Sustainable Sites
- Water Efficiency
- Energy & Atmosphere
- Materials & Resources
- Indoor Environmental Quality



# LEED Gold Buildings In Halifax



Dalhousie New Academic Building



Nova Scotia  
Community College



# Meet the Design Architect

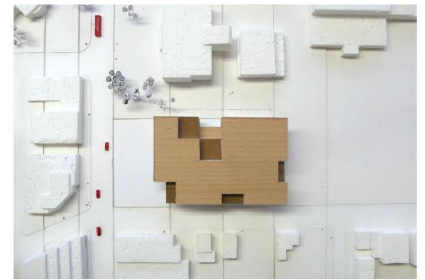
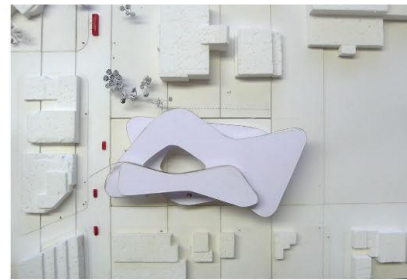
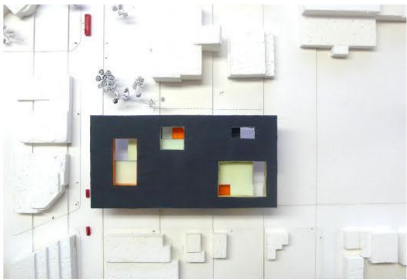
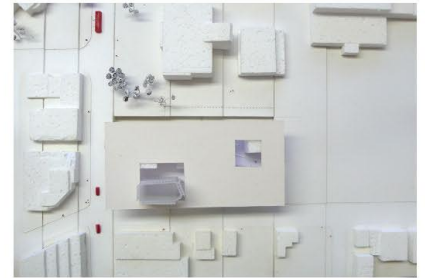
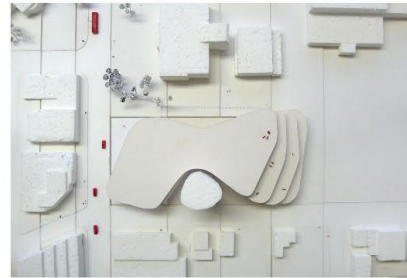
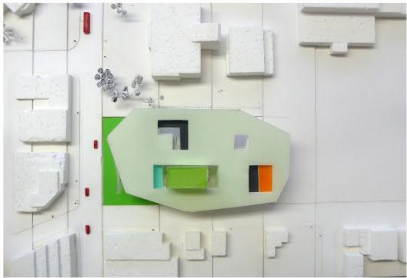
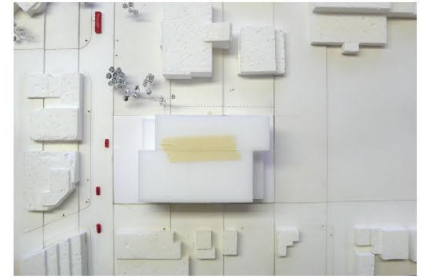
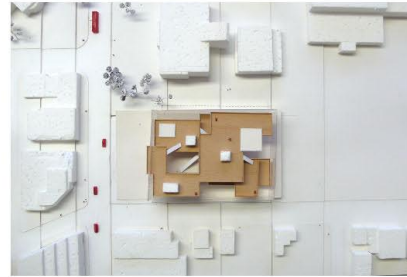
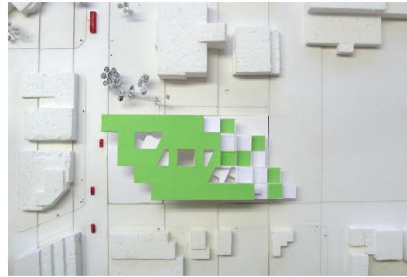
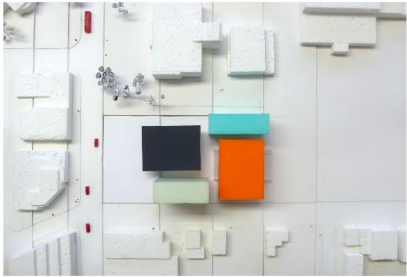
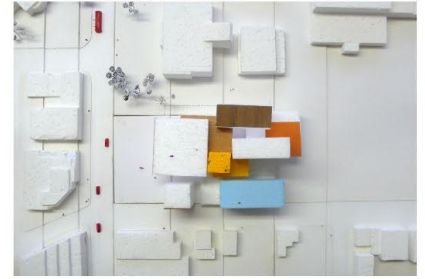
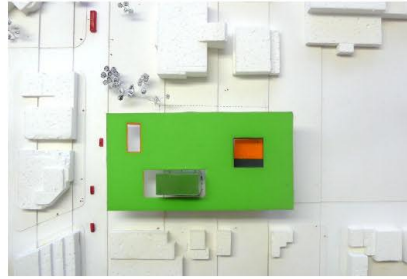
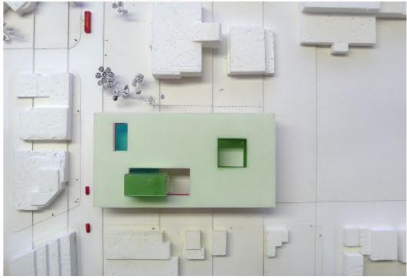
**Morten Schmidt**

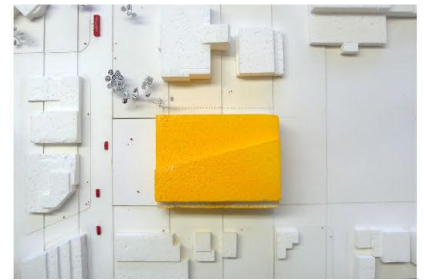
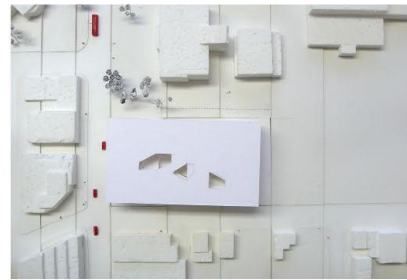
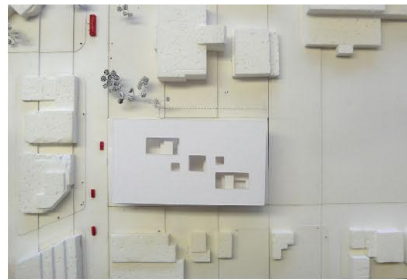
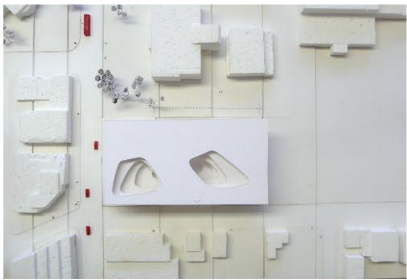
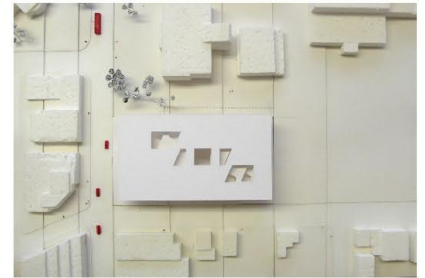
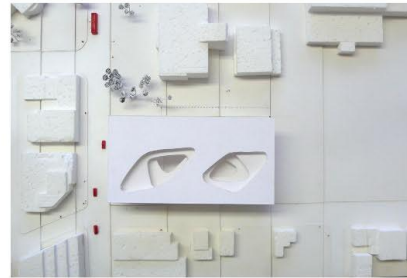
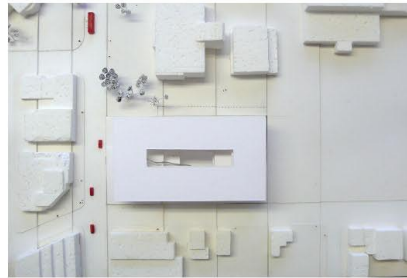
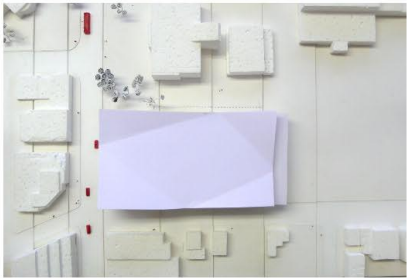
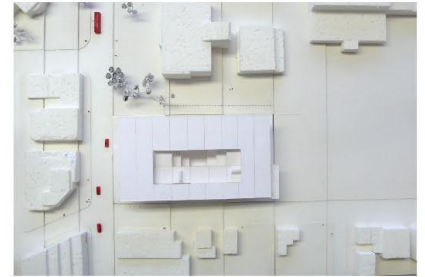
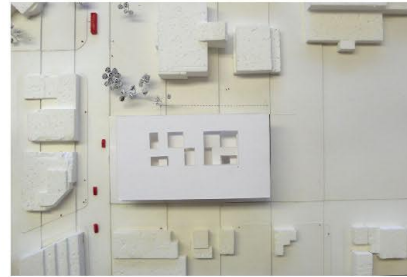
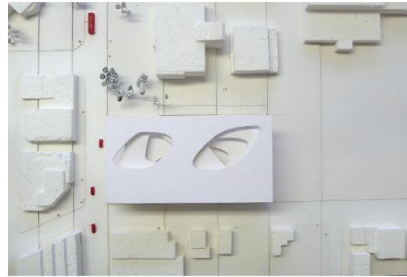
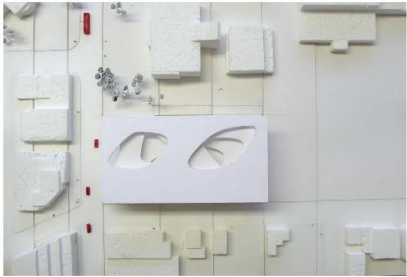
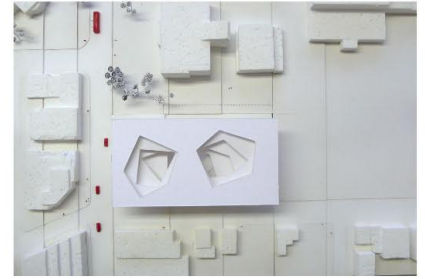
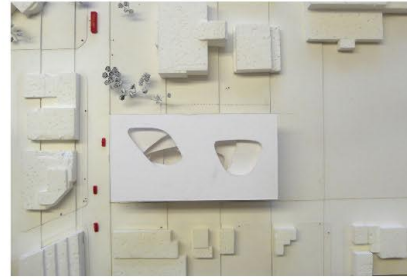
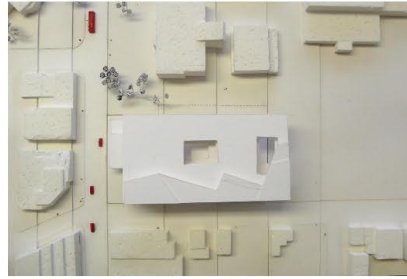
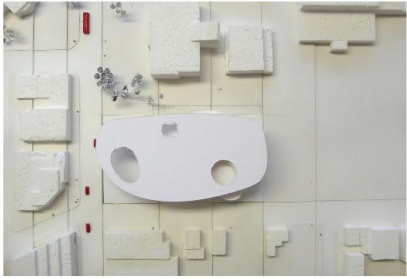
Founding Partner

schmidt hammer lassen architects

Aarhus, Denmark







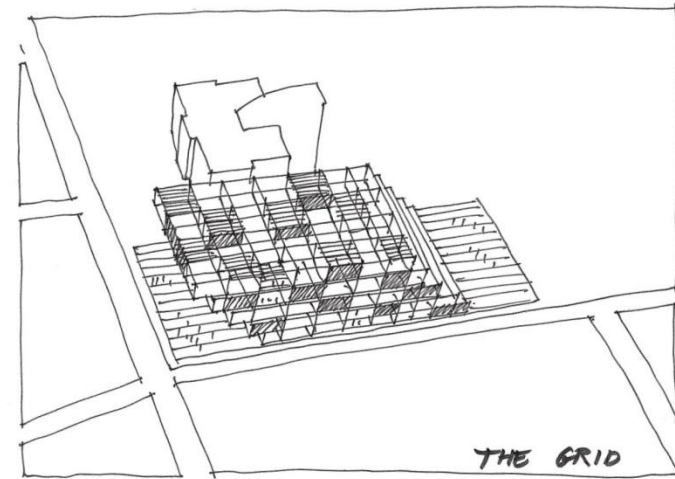
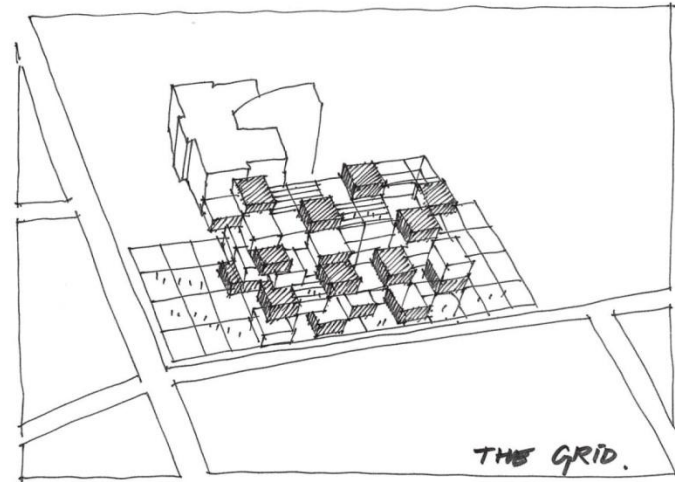
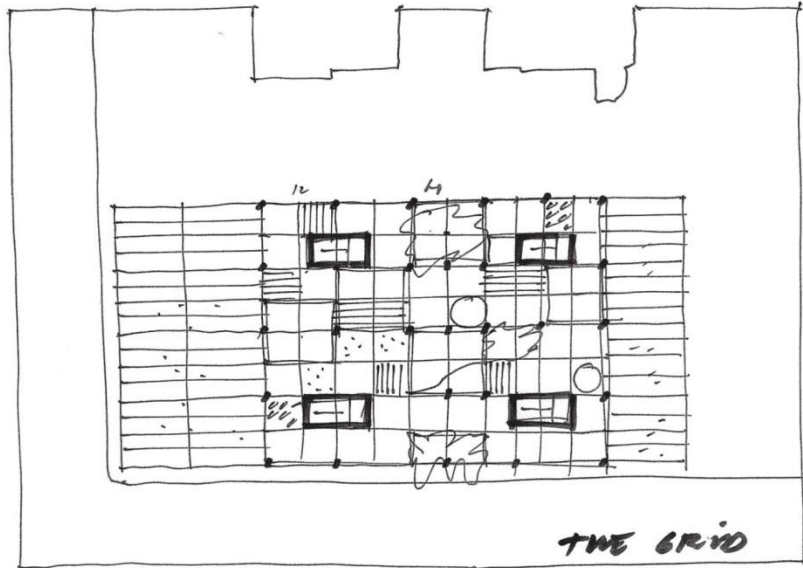
022/

## Typology 01/ The Grid

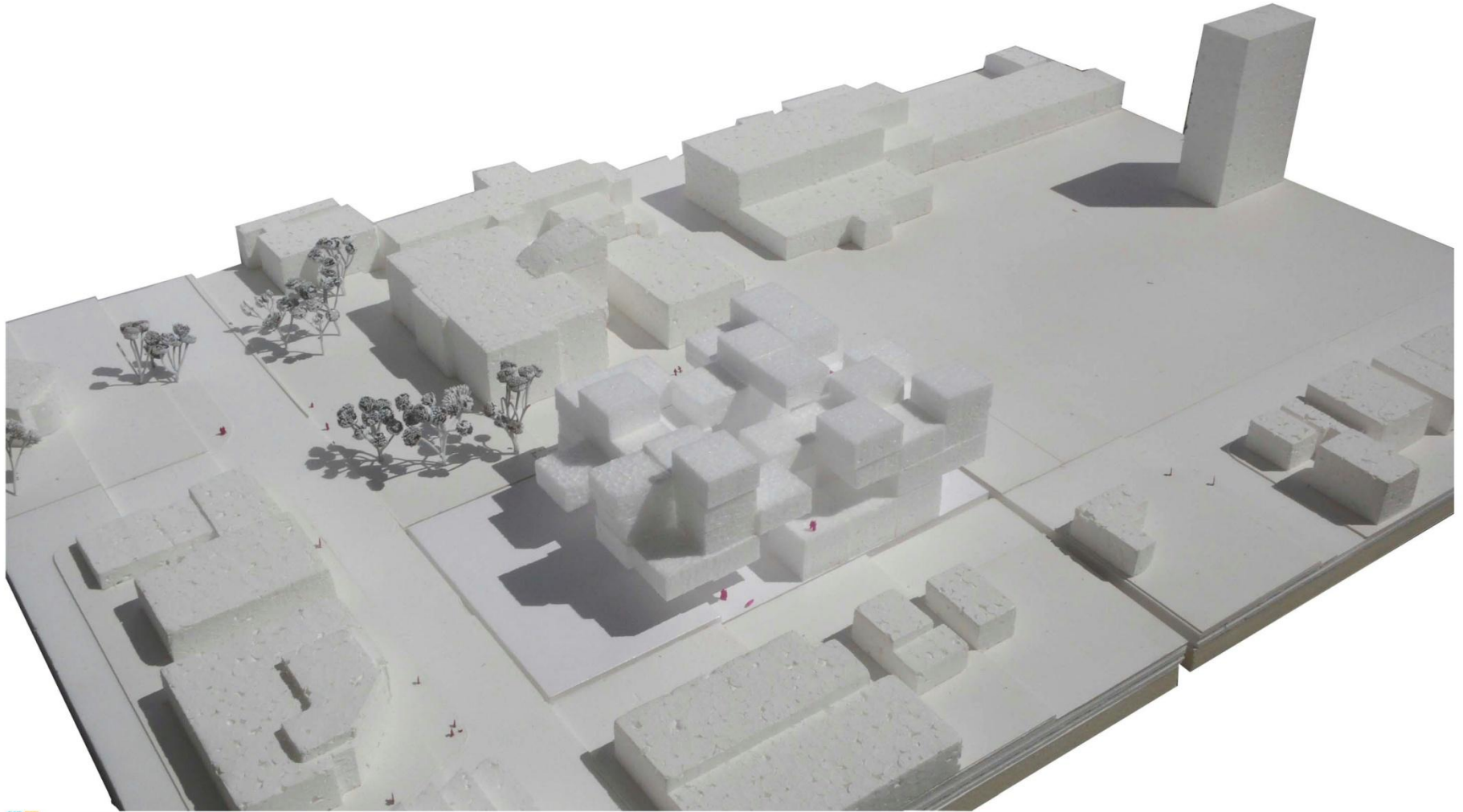
The grid typology explores the potential to inhabit and create a series of open, closed and porous spaces within an expressed rigid and economical grid system.

The overall spatial qualities aim to be spread equally throughout the building as opposed to a single grand gesture such as a single central atrium.

The user is encouraged to explore the various levels and experience a series of different spaces.











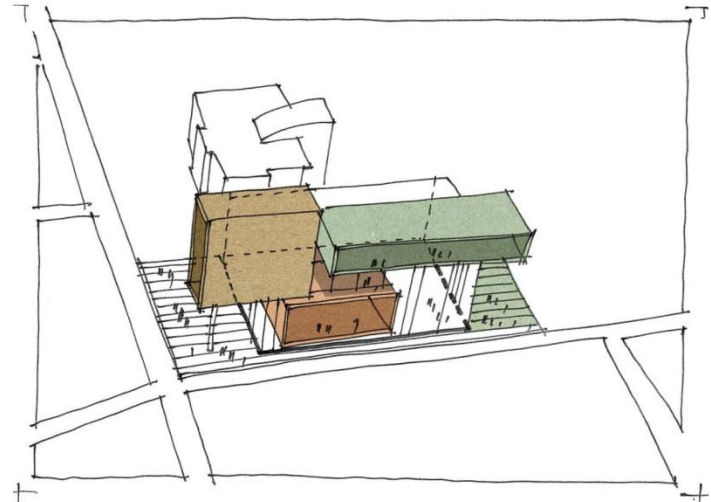
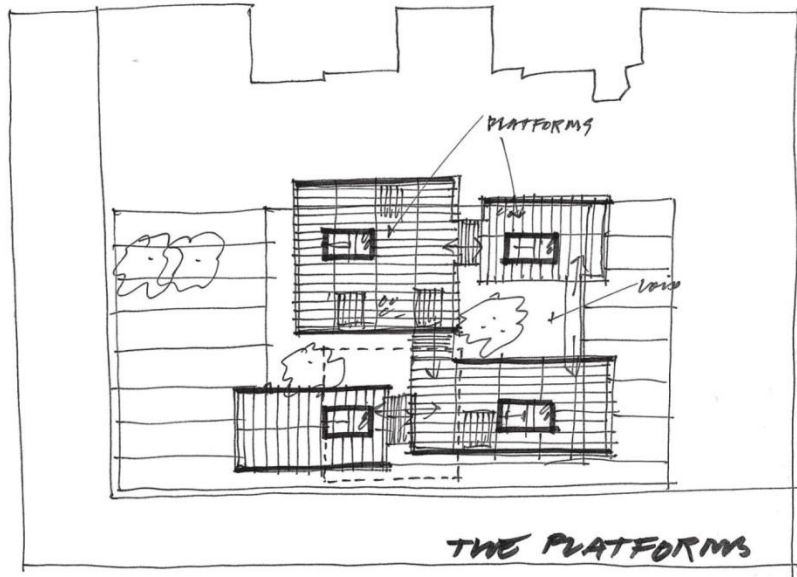
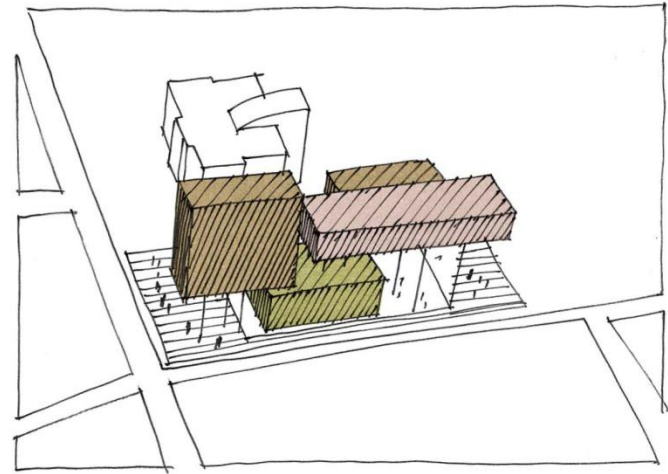
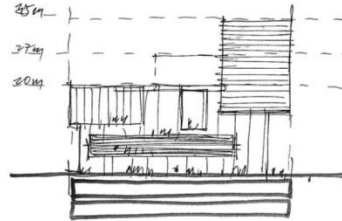
025/

## Typology 02/ Platforms

The platform typology evolves directly from the grid typology but begins to cluster and group specific programmatic elements and library collections.

Like the grid typology before it a series of platforms and solid enclosed elements overlap and float creating a series of unusual and diverse spaces inbetween.

The flow and connection of each space or 'platform' needs to be developed further in terms of future flexibility, expansion and contraction of each programmatic element or collection.







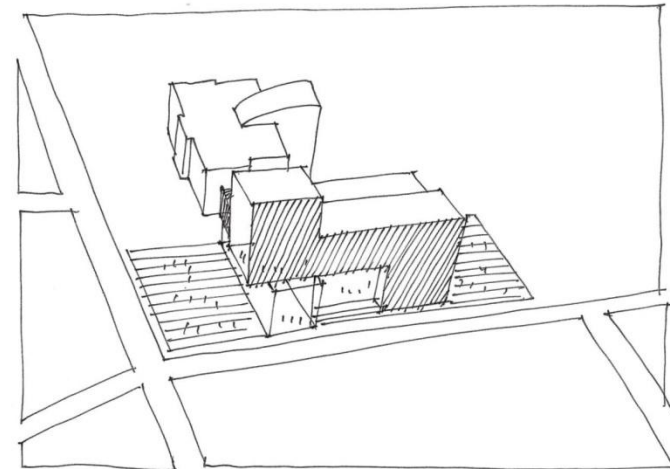
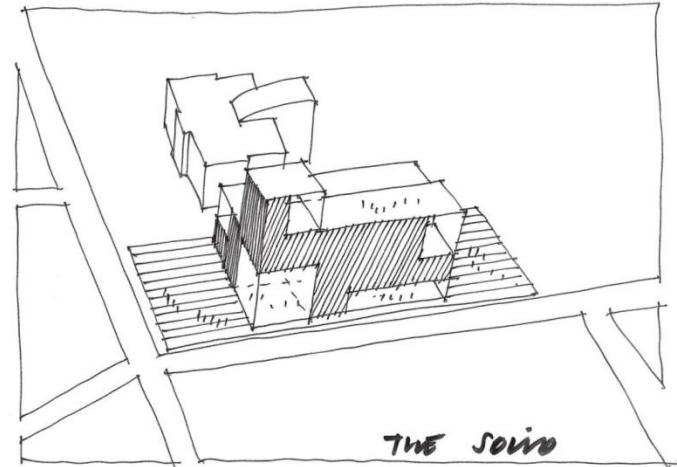
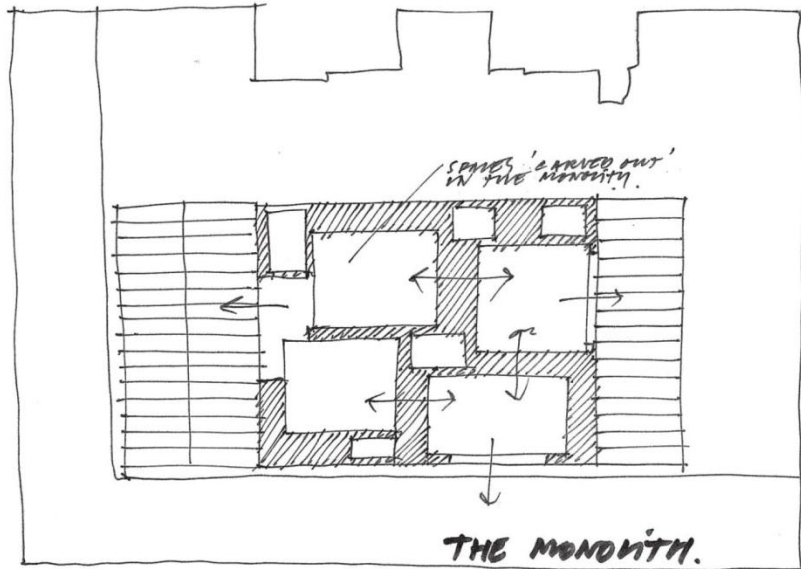
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## Typology 03/ Solid/ Monolith

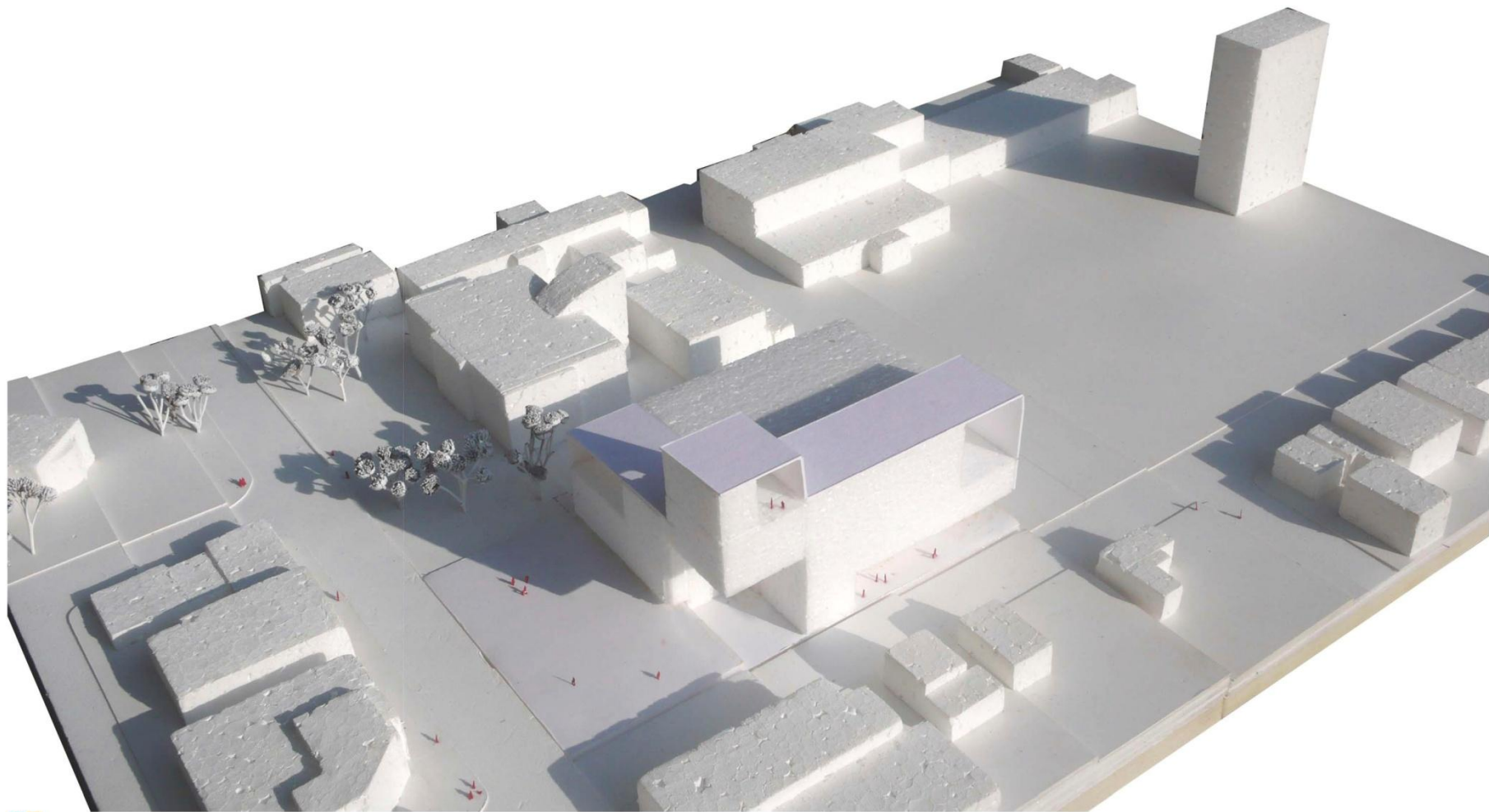
The urban grain surrounding the Library site is one of mixed or unknown value.

The Dalhousie University building to the east, coupled with the existing library building across Spring Garden Road to the north east, are perhaps the most notable architectural buildings surrounding the site. To the south and south west lie sites awaiting investment and development; their impact on the urban grain is unknown, and to the north and north west sit a mixture of small scale retail and mid scale commercial developments from the last twenty years.

Typology 3 aims to address the mixed surroundings by placing a bold singular element that sits as a confident, simple, and open new public building clearly recognisable through its unapologetic simplicity. Large windows and openings respond to key approaches and views to and from the new library.







030/

## Typology 04/ Roof/

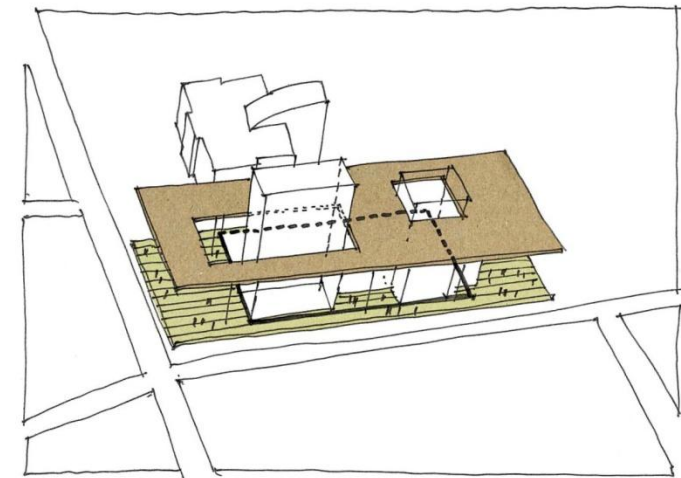
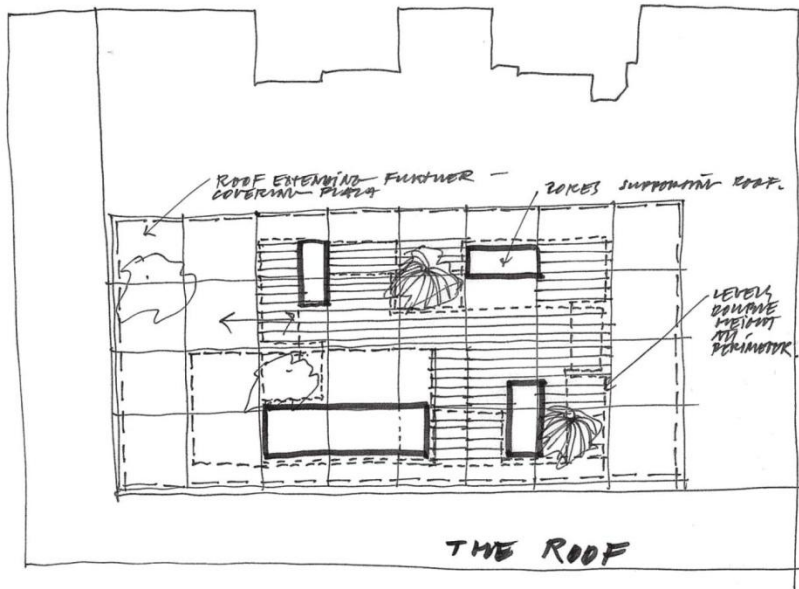
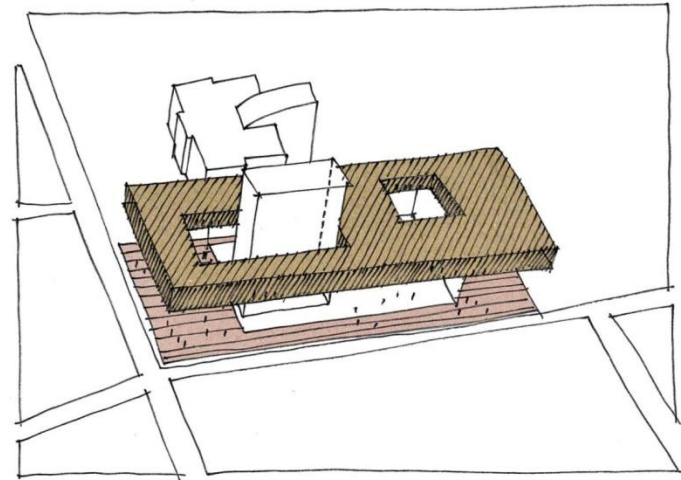
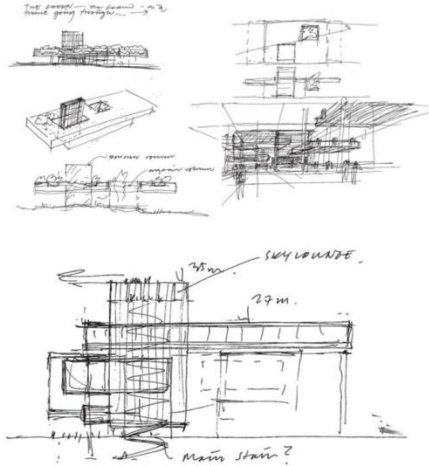
The new central library for Halifax will be an inherently open public building; a true public space for the citizens and visitors of Halifax.

The existing "HRM by design" proposes to create an open public plaza on the corner of Spring Garden Road and Queen Street addressing the new library clearly helps to create the desired feeling of openness and inclusivity.

The Roof typology aims to fuse together the notion of open public space with the space for the library. A large hovering element or thin roof disk extends out beyond the site to include the new public plaza to the north, the landscaped park to the south, and the pedestrian access to the east and west.

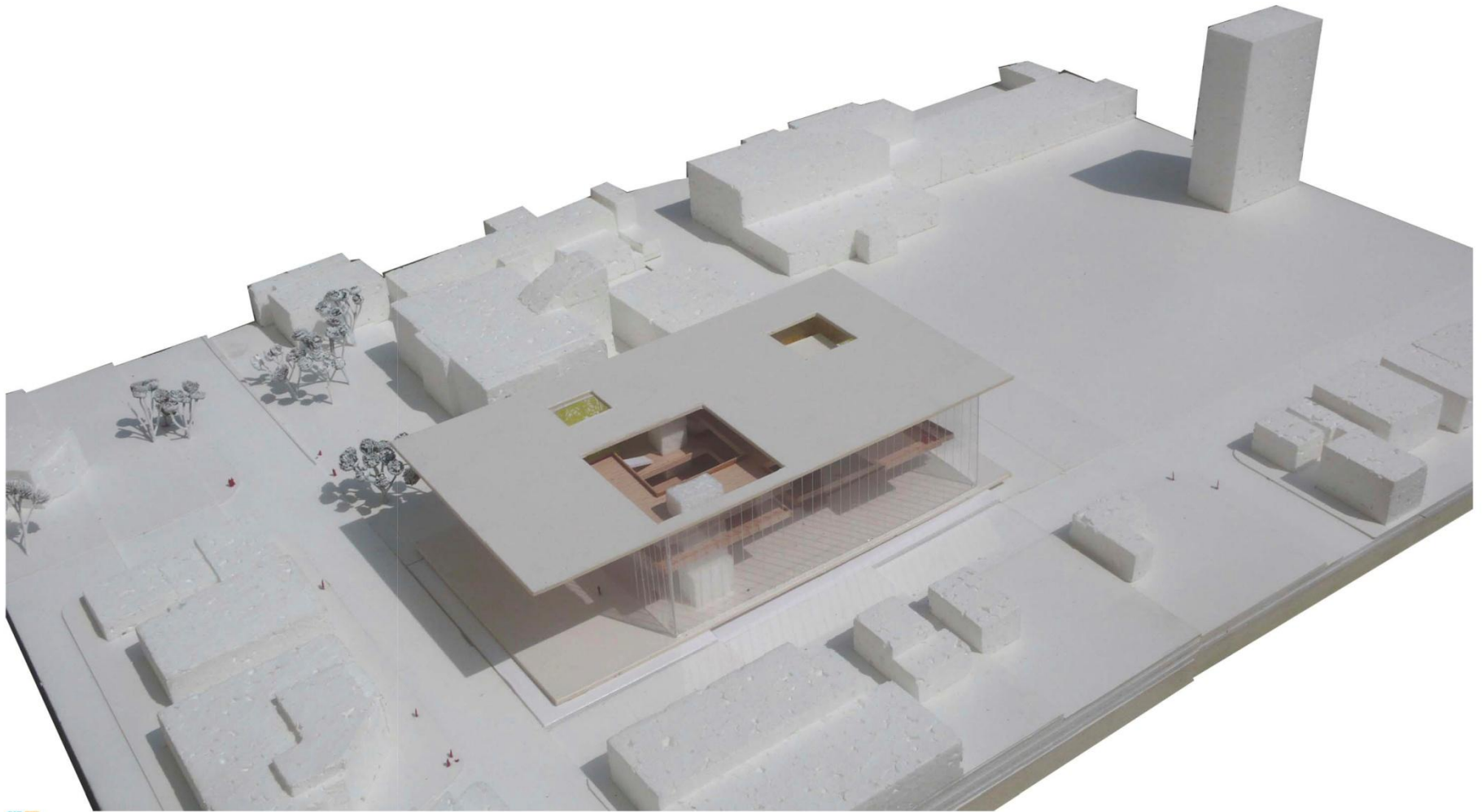
The concept of urban square and park are combined below a single unifying element, creating the idea of library square or library park.

The large roof surface opens up the opportunity to introduce a raised roof park with controlled access during summer months with views across the bay and will be clearly visible from the citadel, creating a large green element in the cityscape.









034/

## Typology 05/ Ramp/

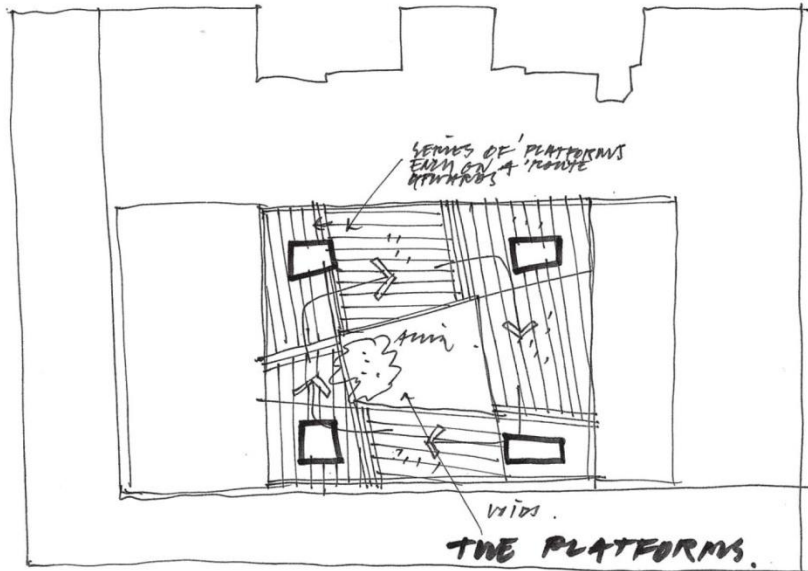
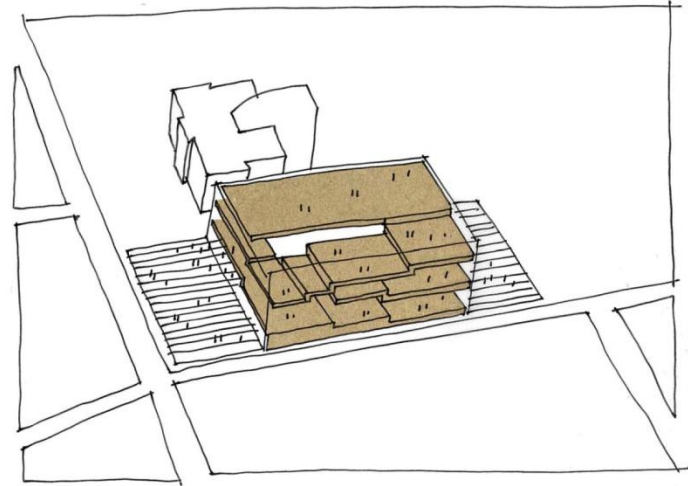
The ramp typology aims to develop some of the ideas currently being discussed for the Urban Mediaspace project in Aarhus, Denmark yet aims to take these discussions one step further.

In the Urban Mediaspace lies the Mediaramp: a ramped progression of platforms that allow a variety of media installations, displays and workstations to expand and contract as new media becomes available and old media becomes obsolete.

Can this concept be applied to an entire building creating one large open ramped space with dynamic visual and physical connections open to all?

Furthermore, the concept of a ramp is also heavily influenced by discussions regarding the internal organisation and flow around the new library. A ramp (or in this case a series of flat platforms that form a ramped progression) exists as a continuous space. All space flows into itself in a continuous flow, allowing program and collections to expand and contract freely without the consideration of splitting items up over stacked floors.

Visitors should be able to reach their desired destination via a direct route, but should also be encouraged to roam, wonder and discover.





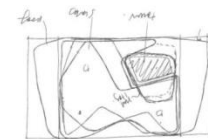
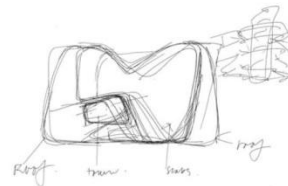
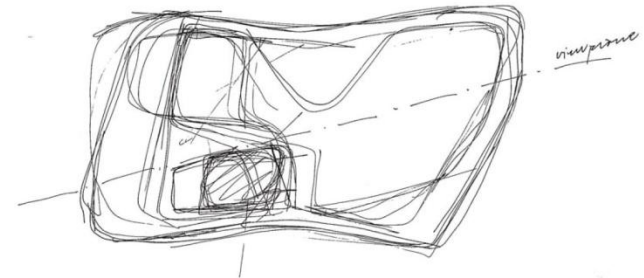
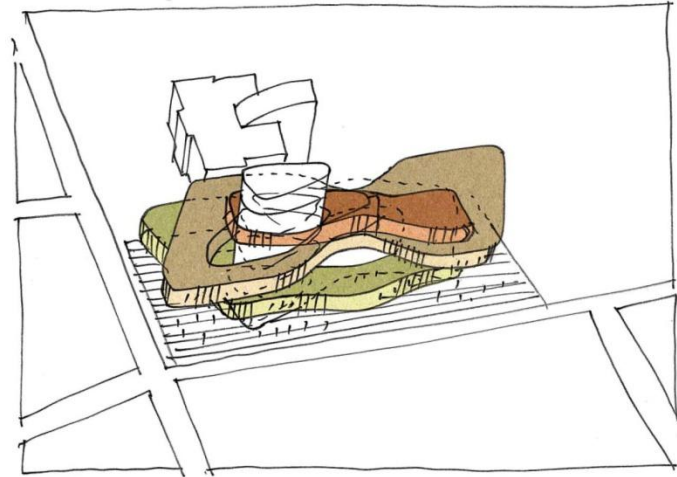
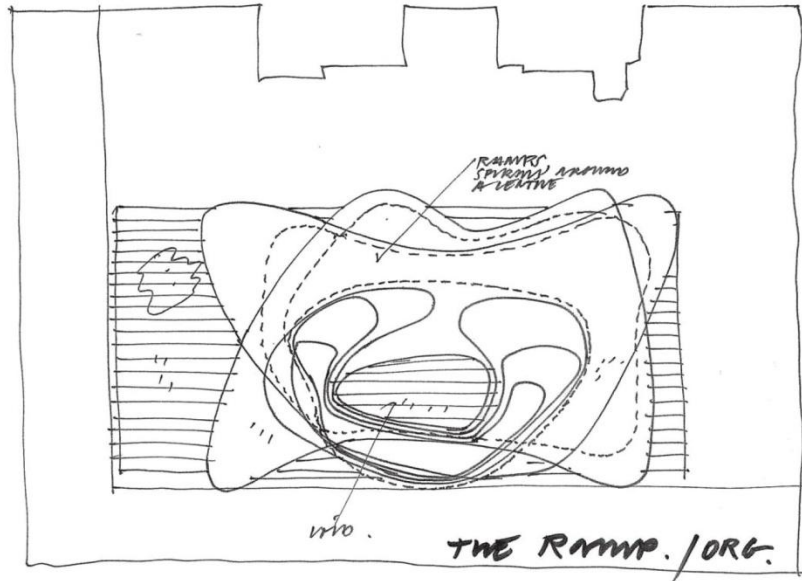


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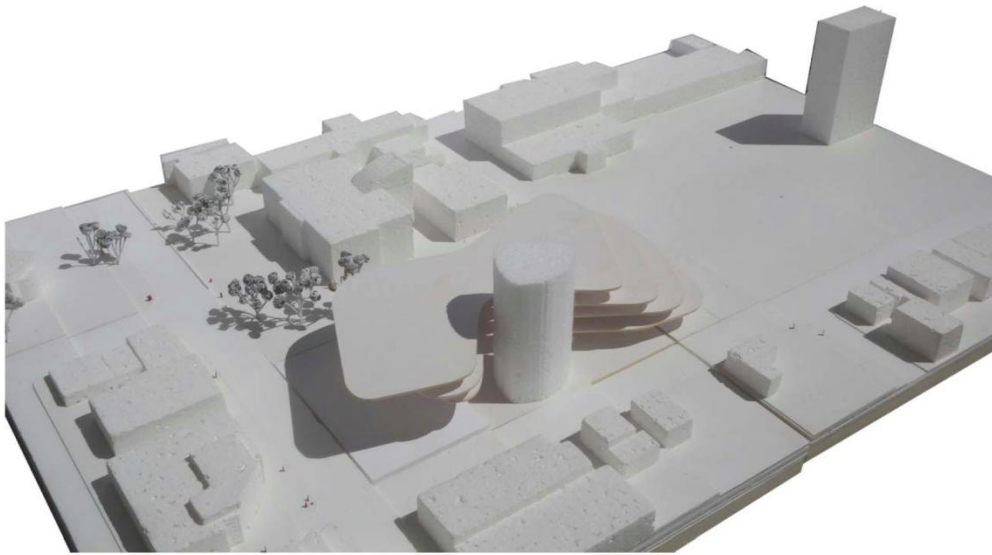
## Typology 06/ Organic/

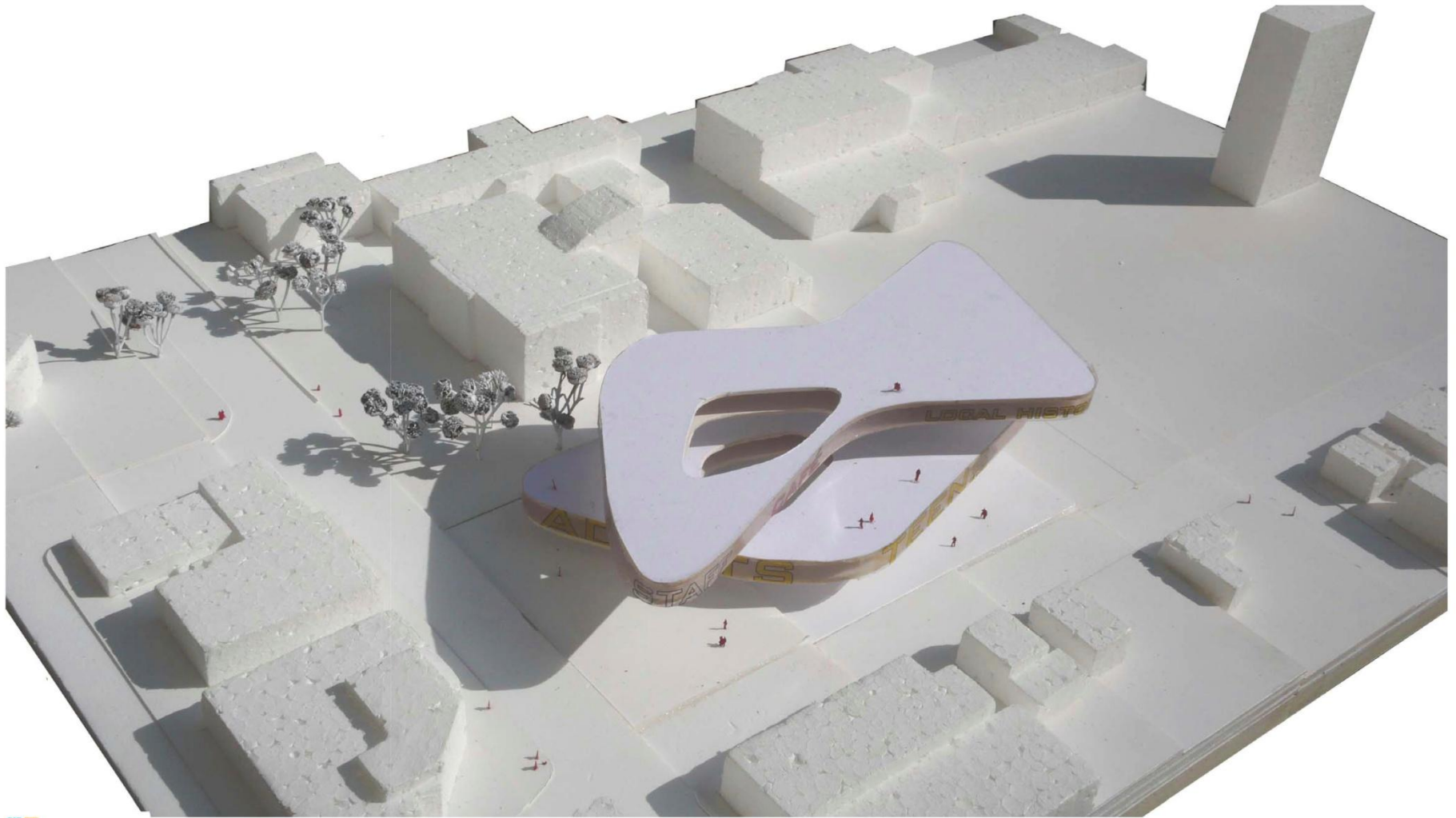
Like most of Canada, and particularly Nova Scotia, the integration of nature and the natural world is very prevalent in most peoples lives. Even in the city the connection to the sea and countryside beyond remains very strong.

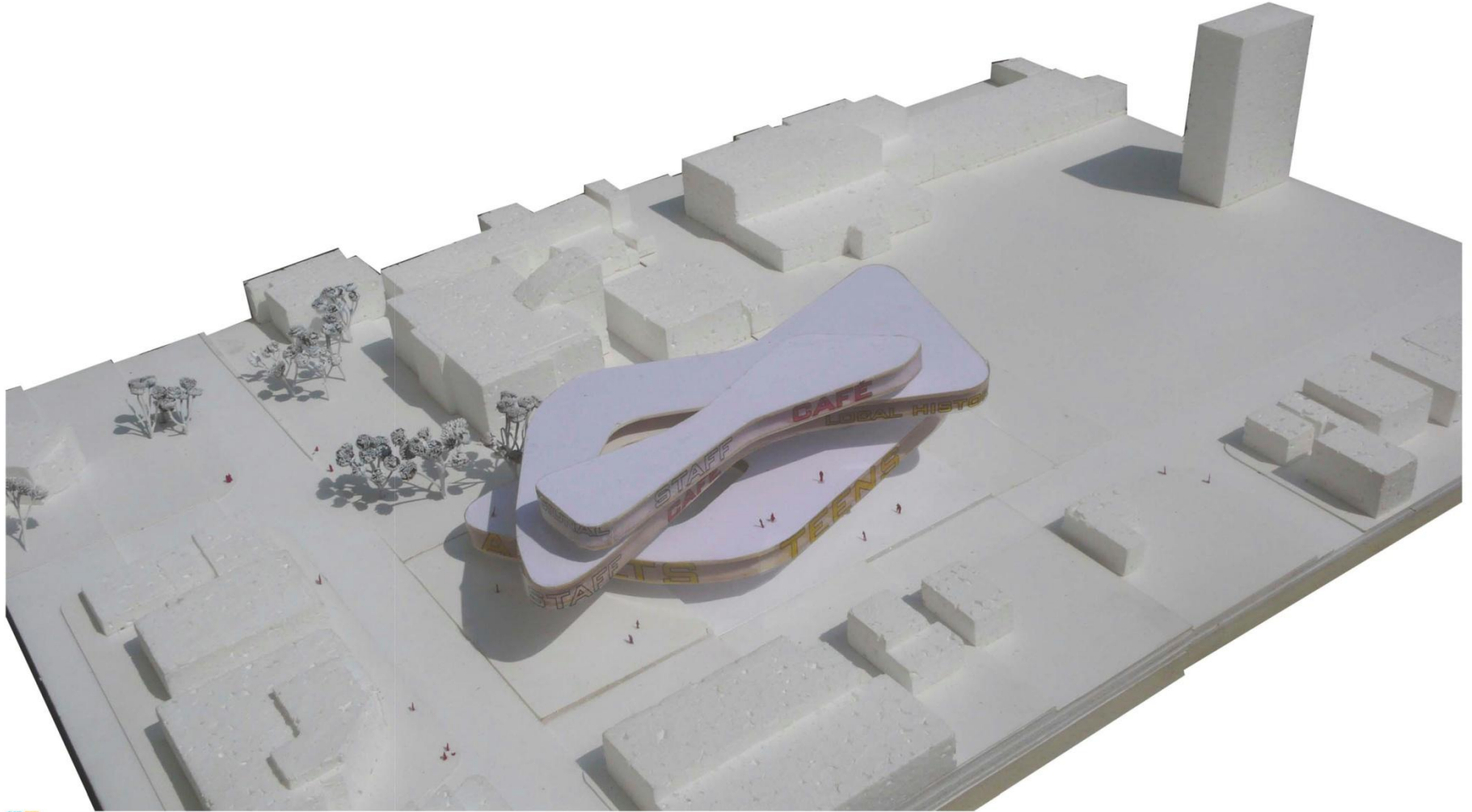
Like the Solid/Monolith typology (03) the Organic typology aims to create a bold new element to the urban grain of downtown Halifax, with smooth soft forms that deliberately contradict the new libraries location within a strong urban grid, but hint to the organic nature of the landscapes beyond.









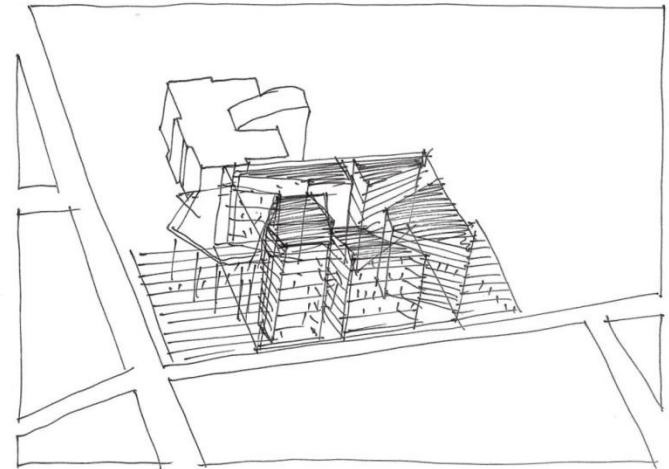
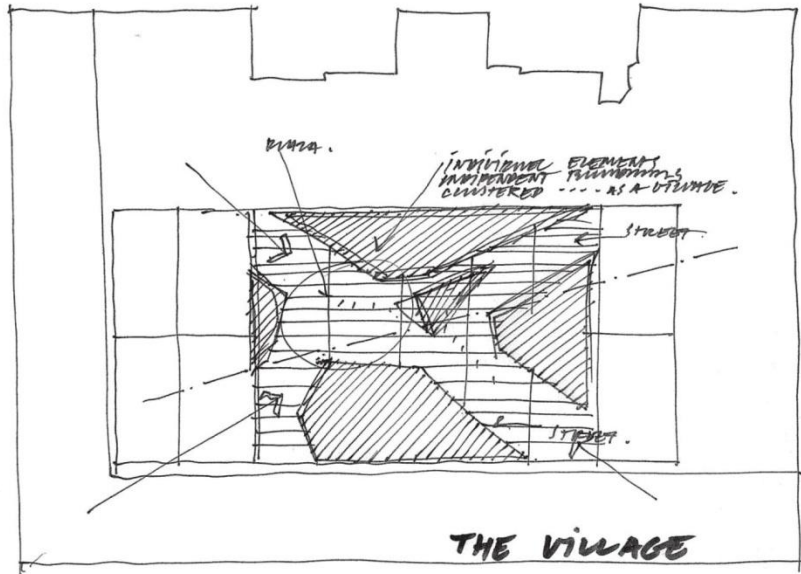
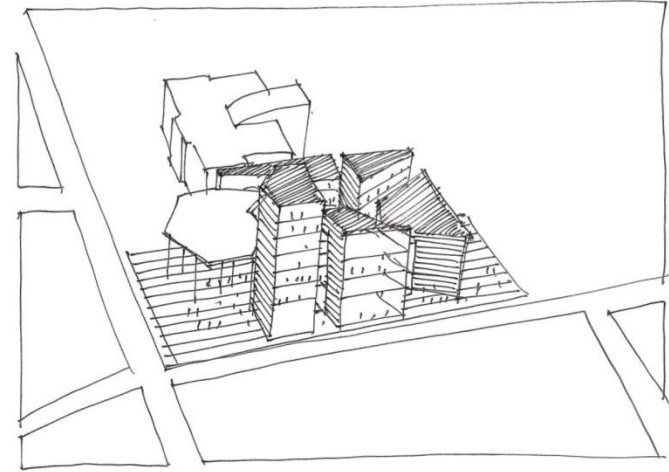
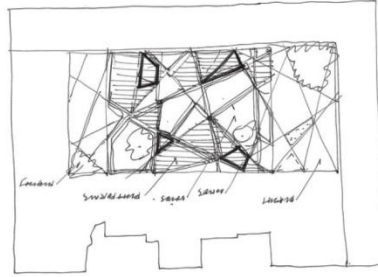


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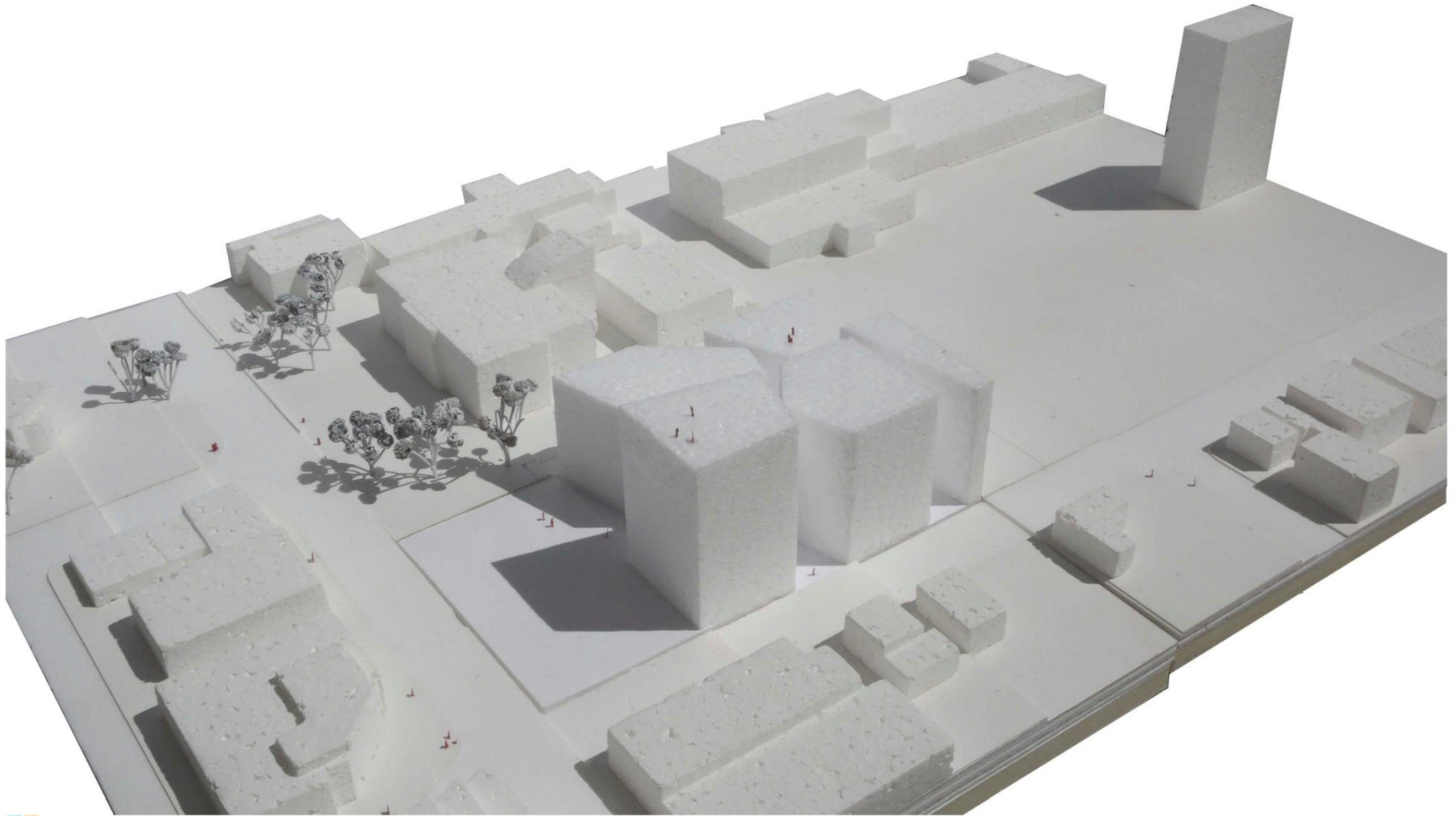
## Typology 07/ The Village/

Like a mini campus the Village typology welcomes access from every angle, drawing citizens and visitors into a series of covered internal plazas and spaces defined by larger volumes.

Connected via open slabs and bridges, the large volumes may develop into a series of platforms as in typology 2. However, an internal series of dynamic cuts, routes and paths remain creating a campus cluster of knowledge and media.











Architecture  
Engineering  
Sexton Campus









Architecture  
Engineering  
Sexton Campus



Architecture  
Engineering  
Sexton Campus







Architecture  
Engineering  
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Architecture  
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Sexton Campus







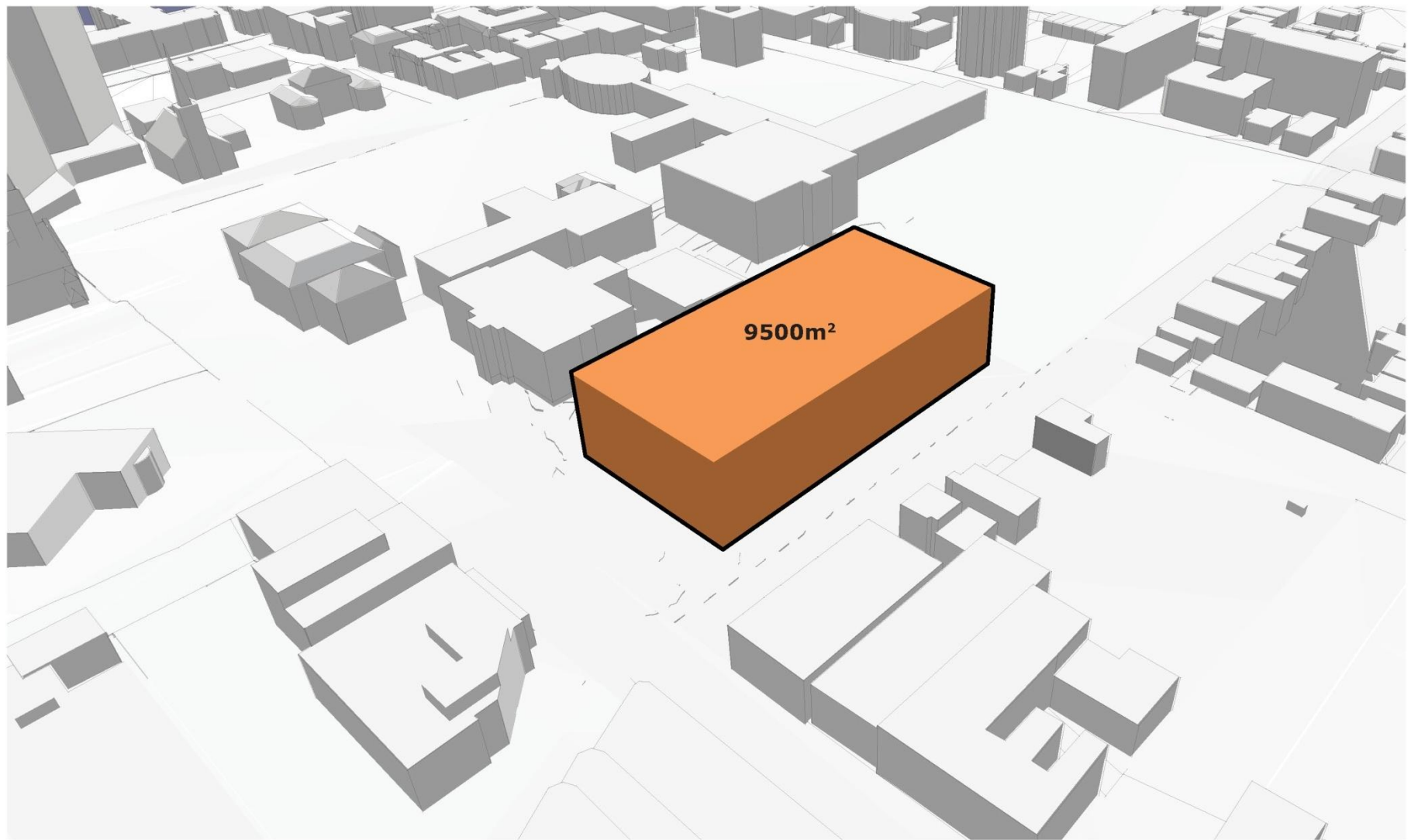




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Sexton Campus

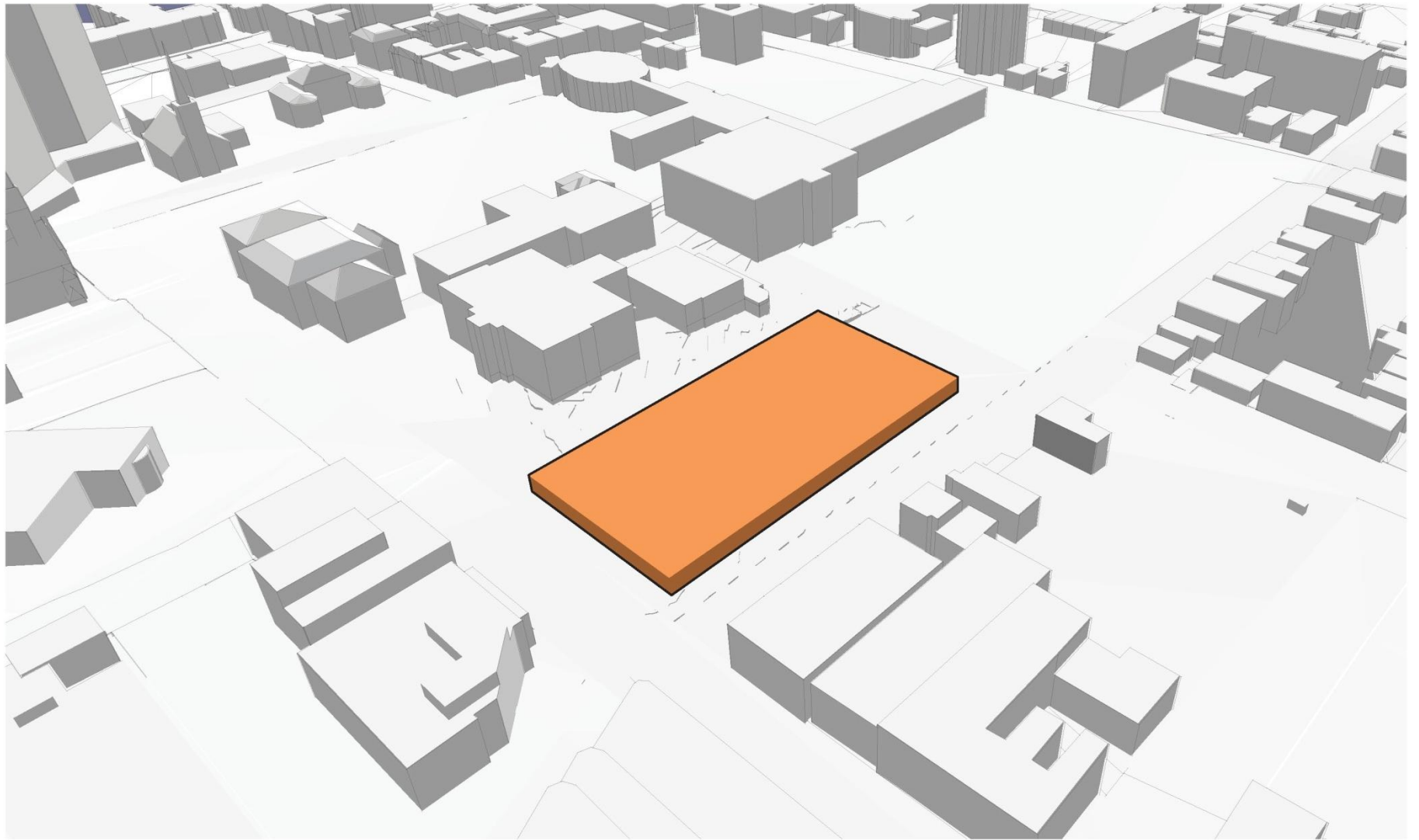


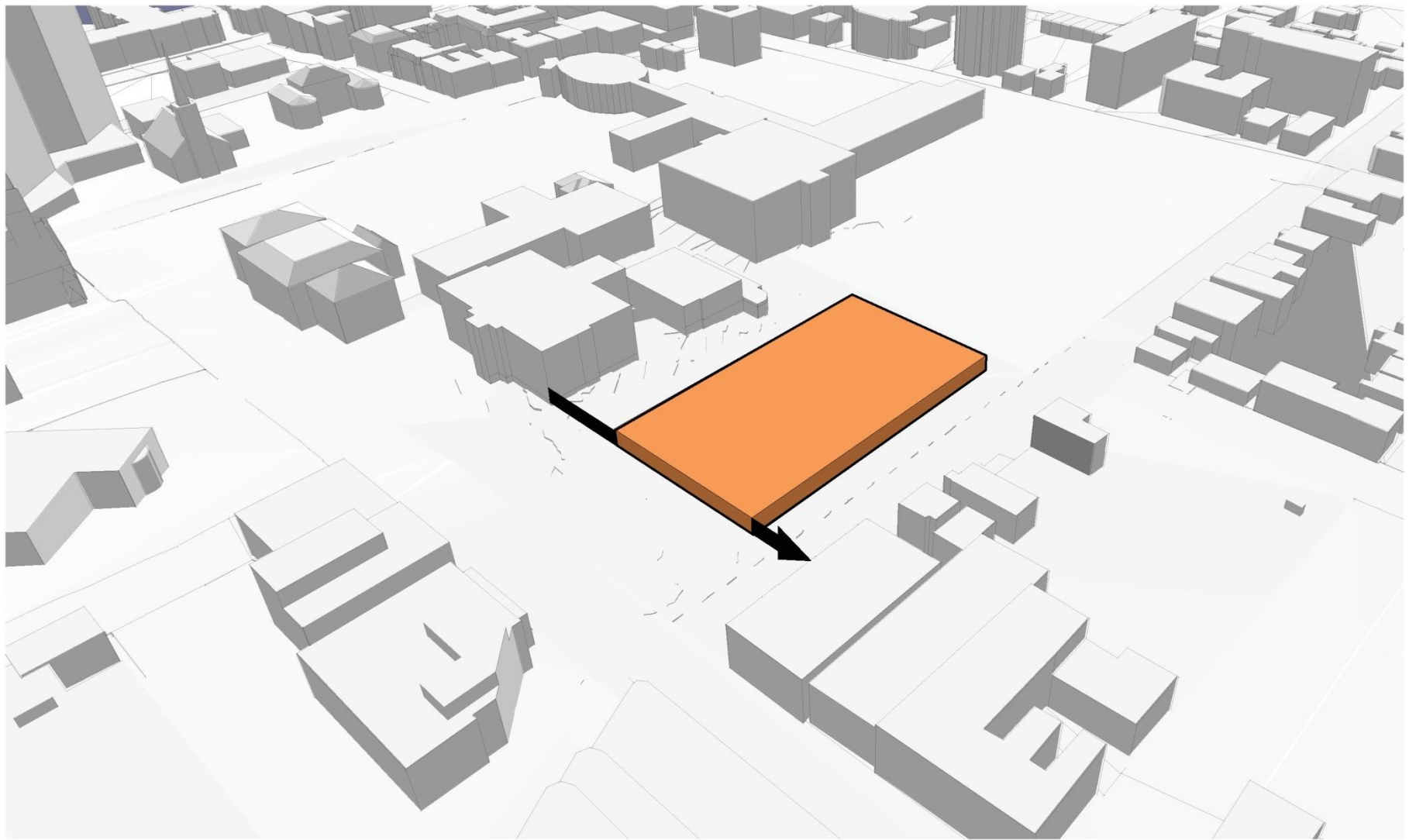


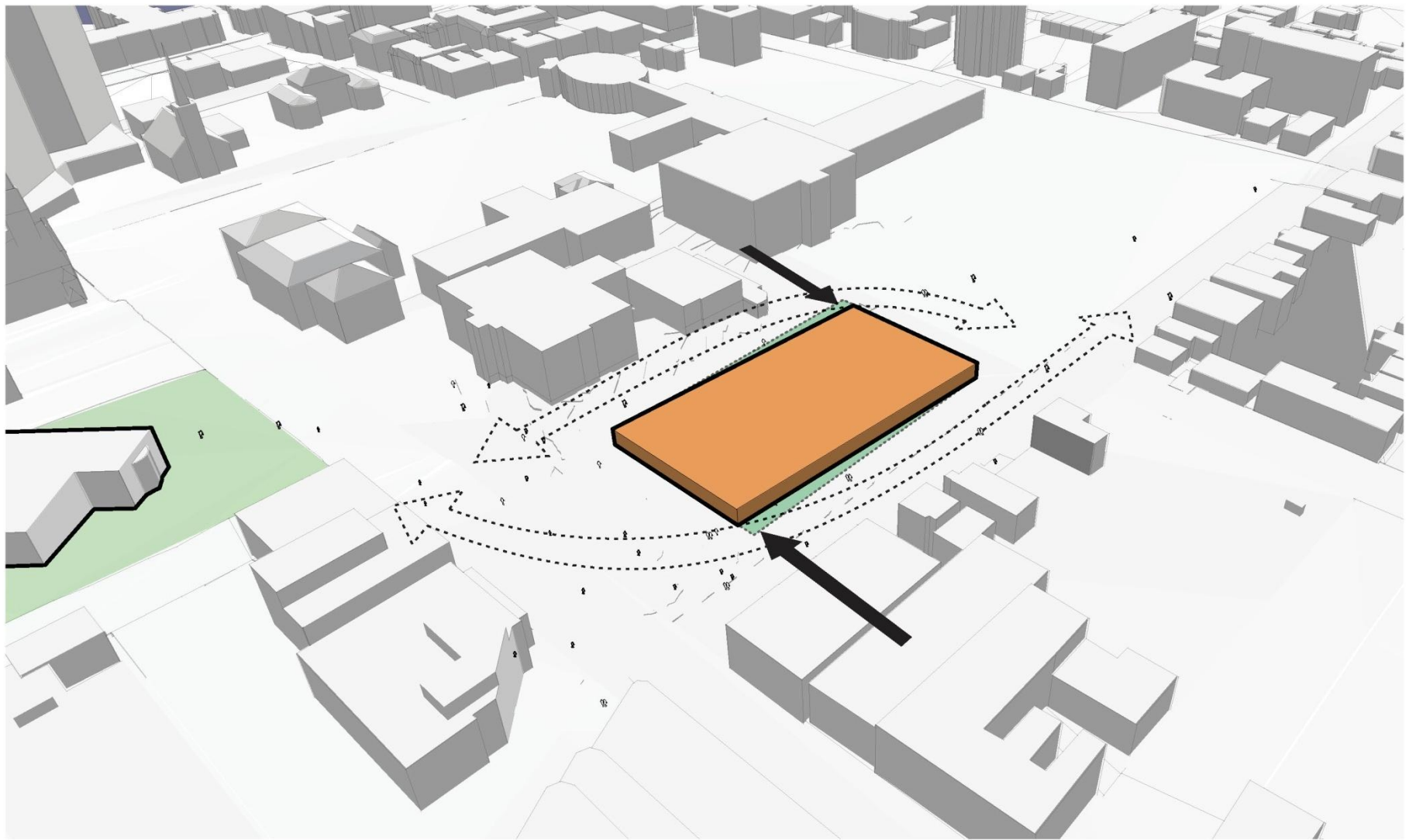


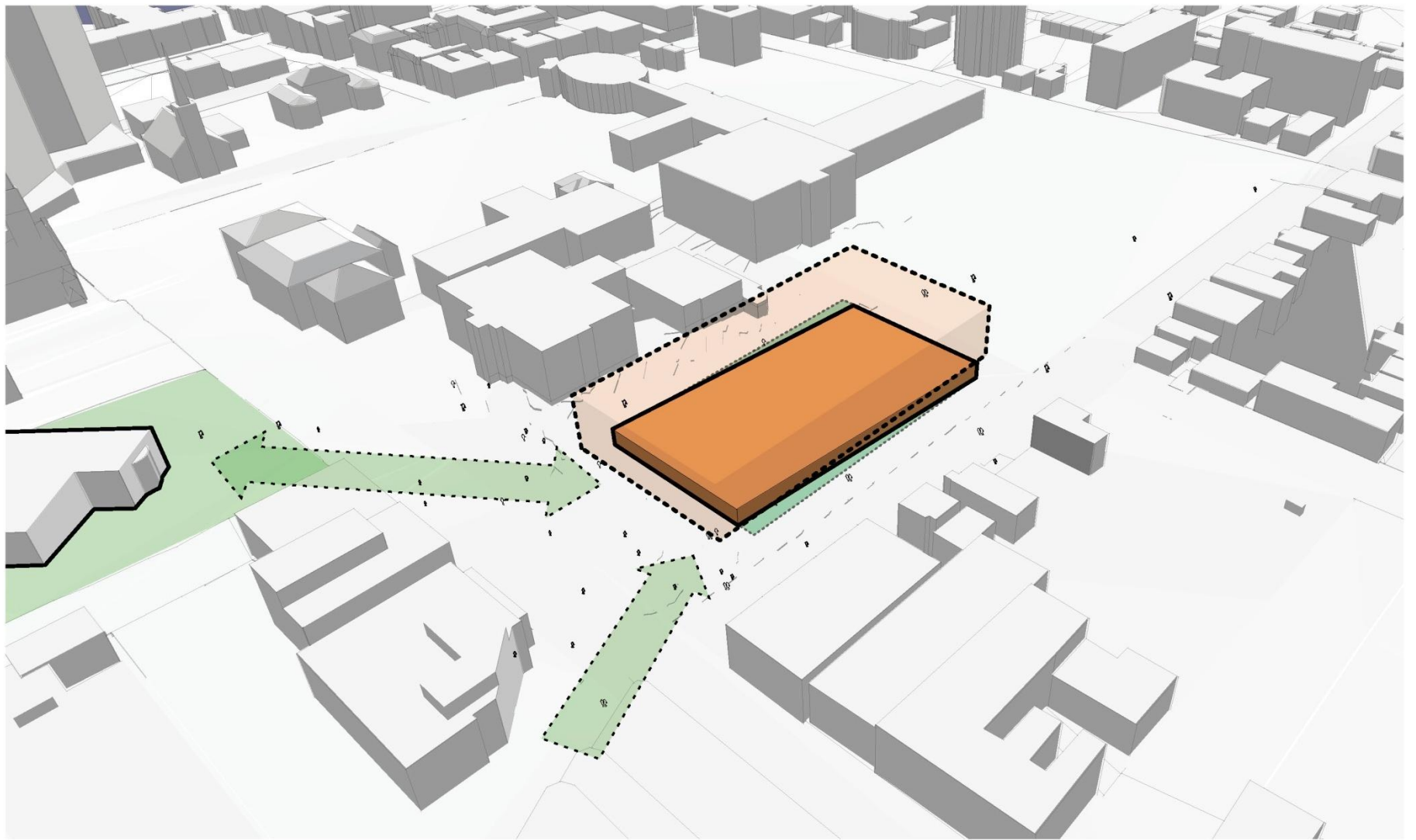
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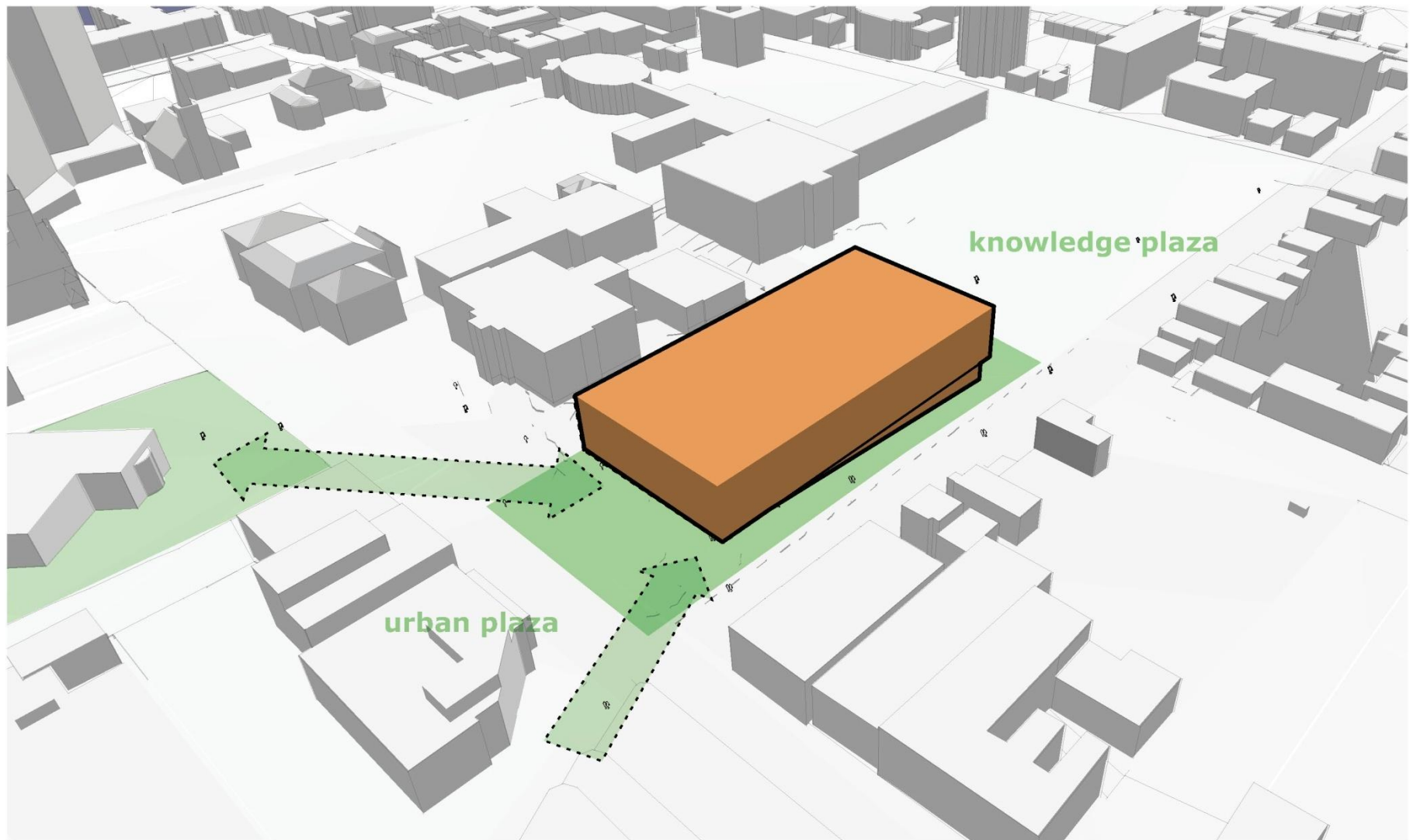


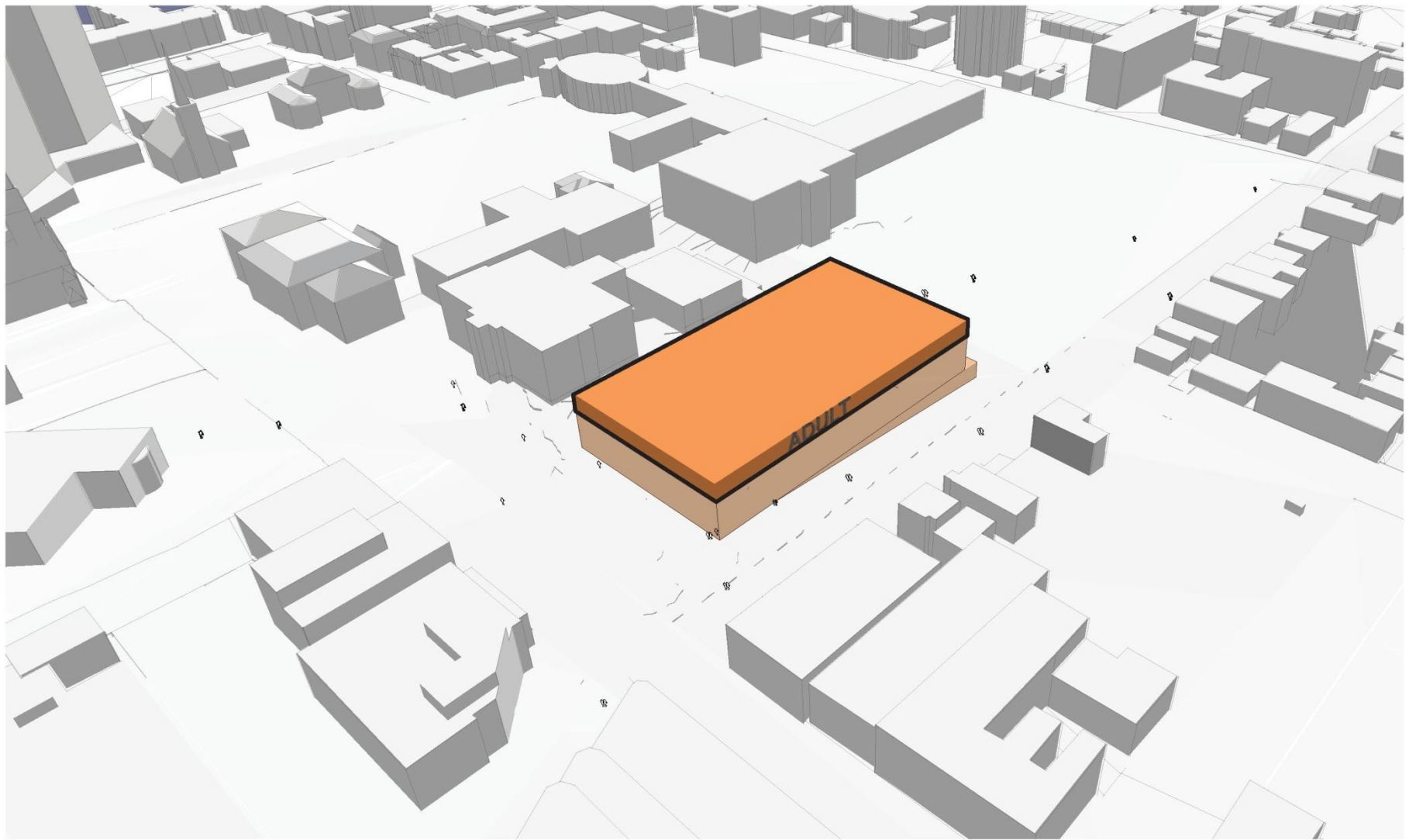


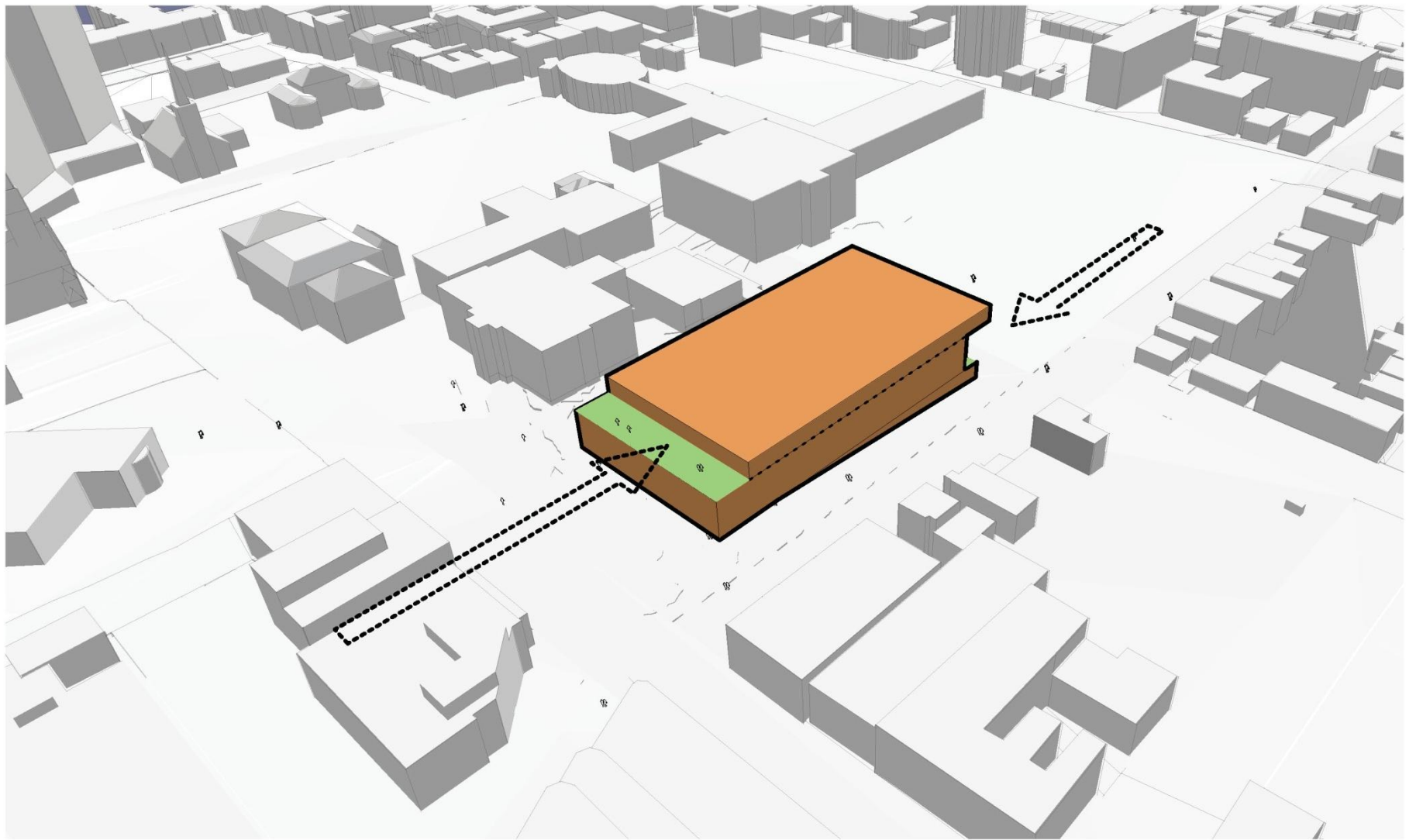


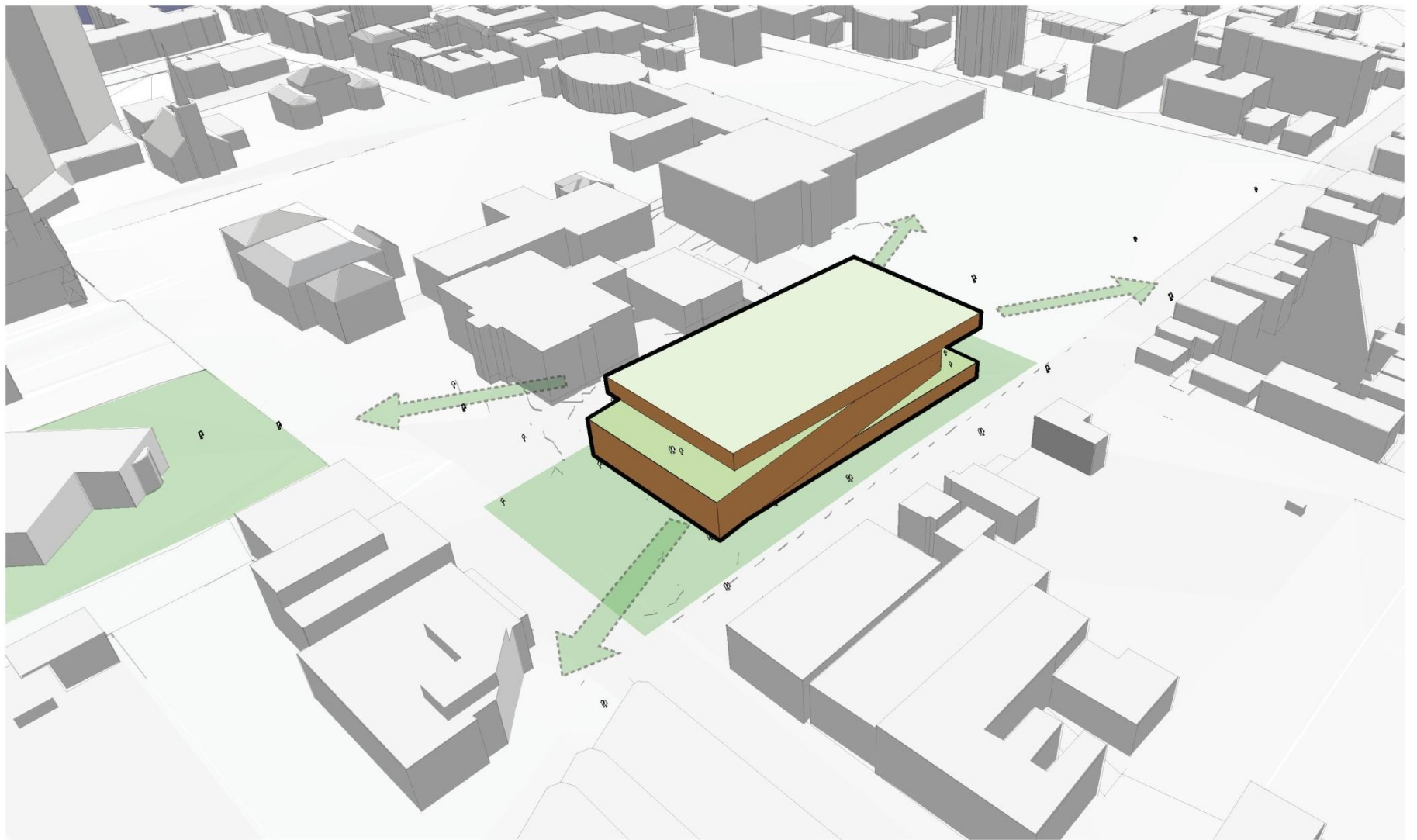




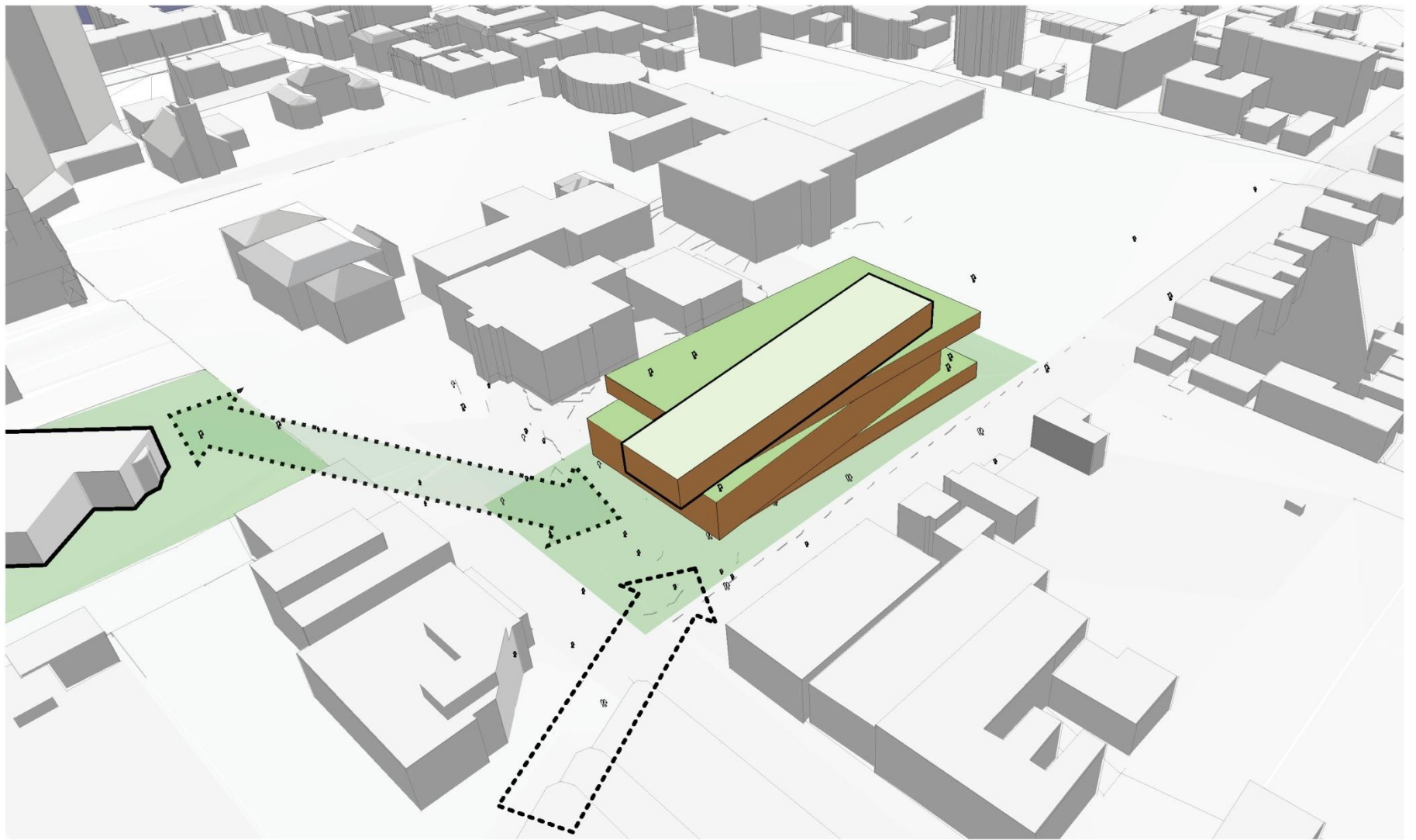


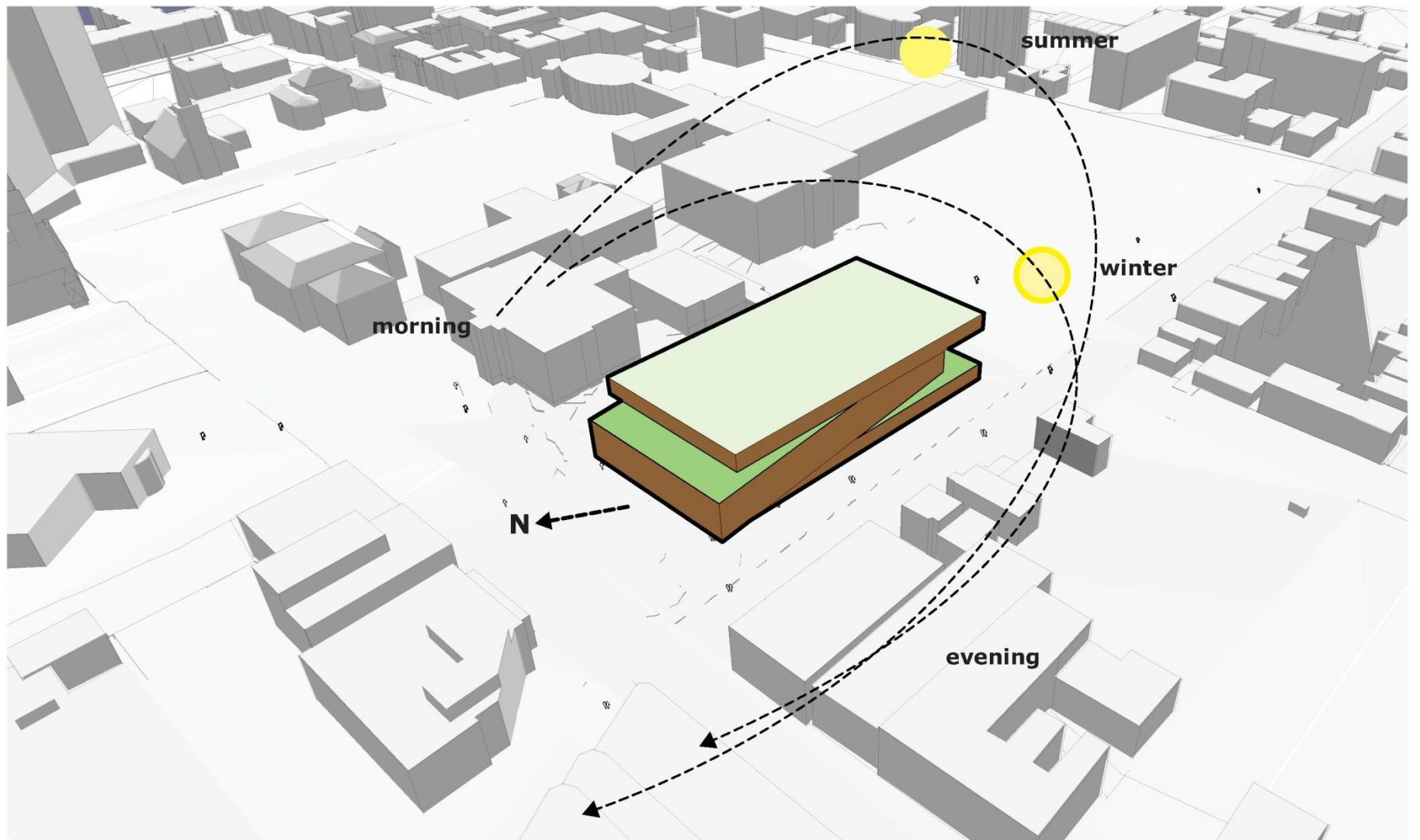


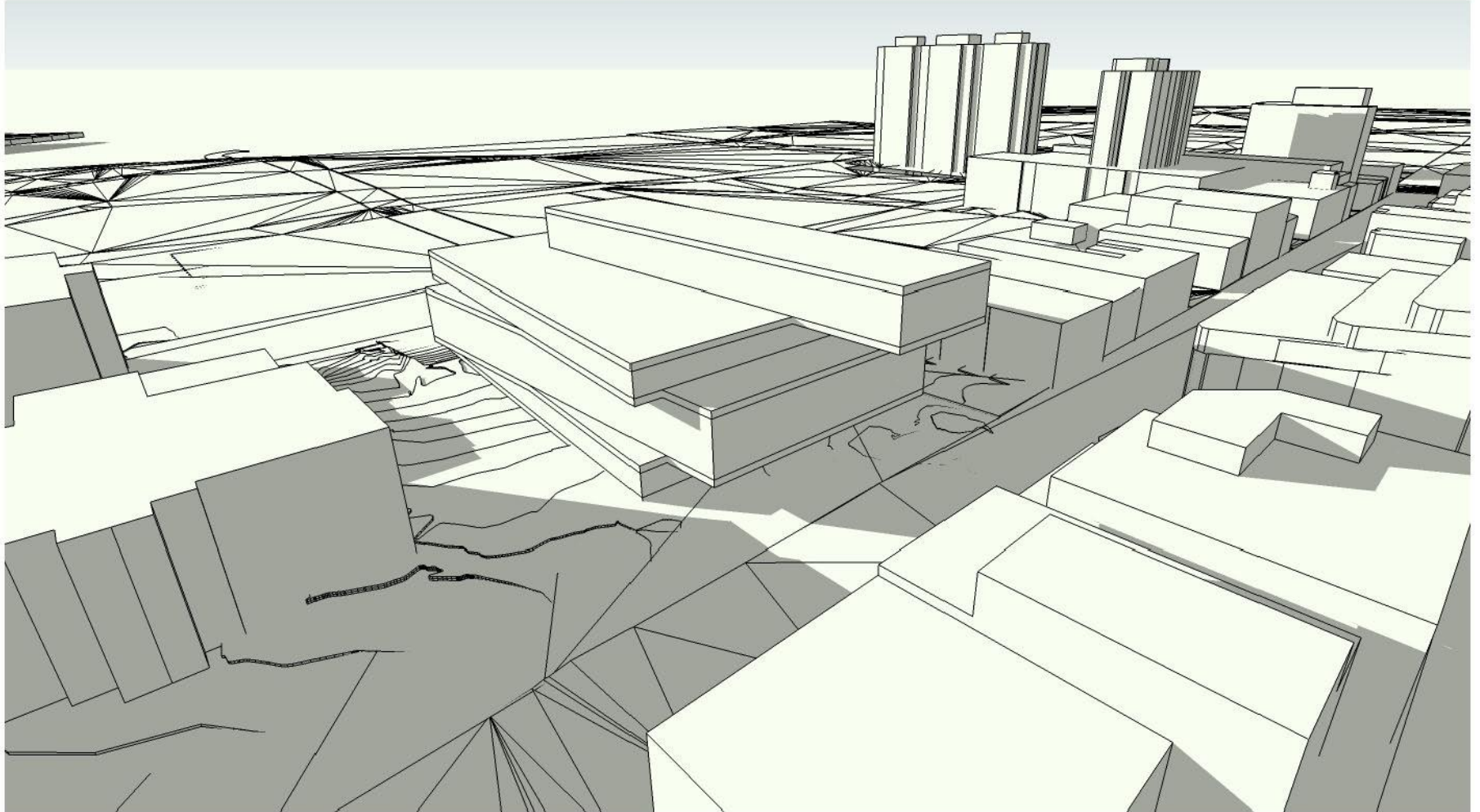






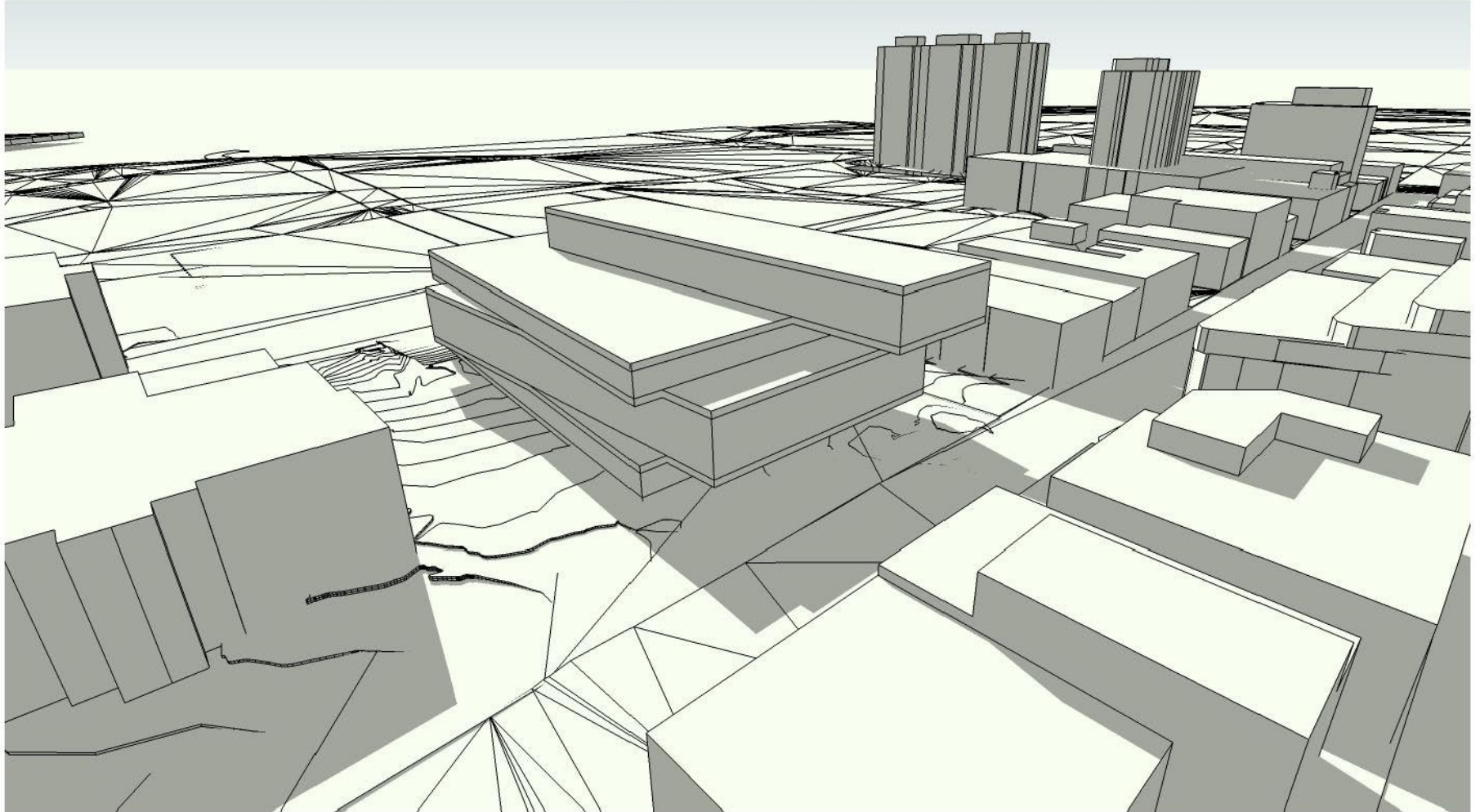






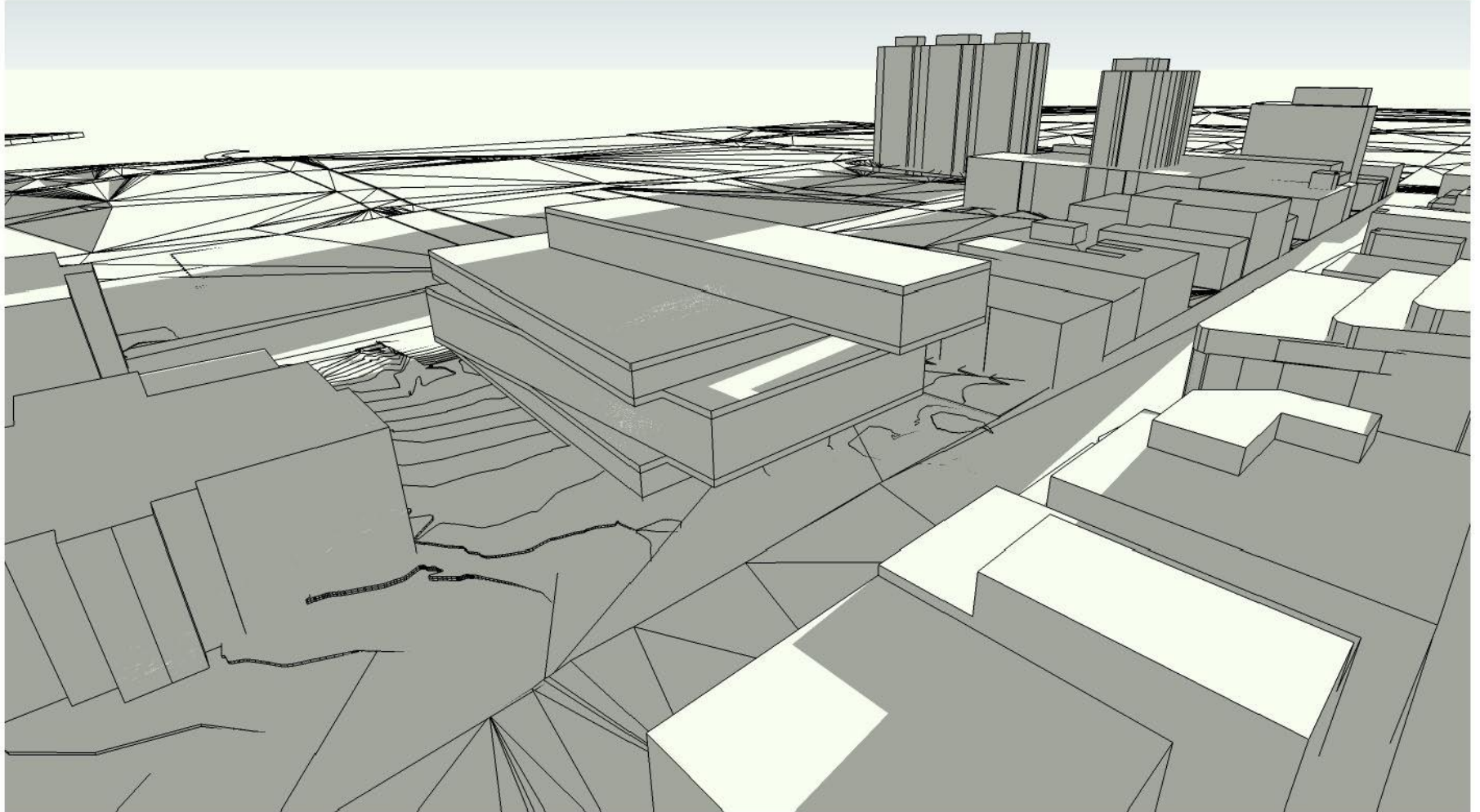
**February 0900**



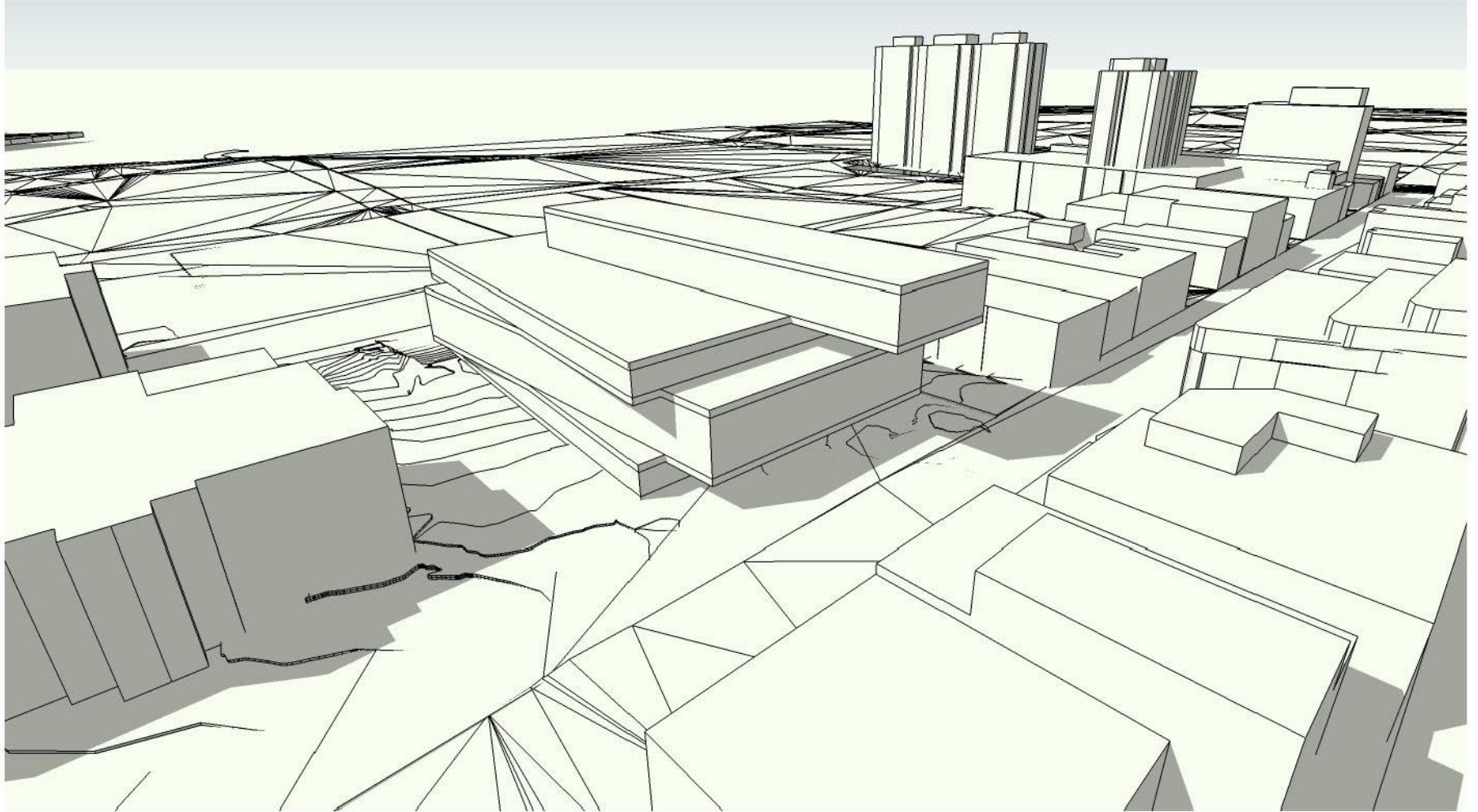


**February 1200**

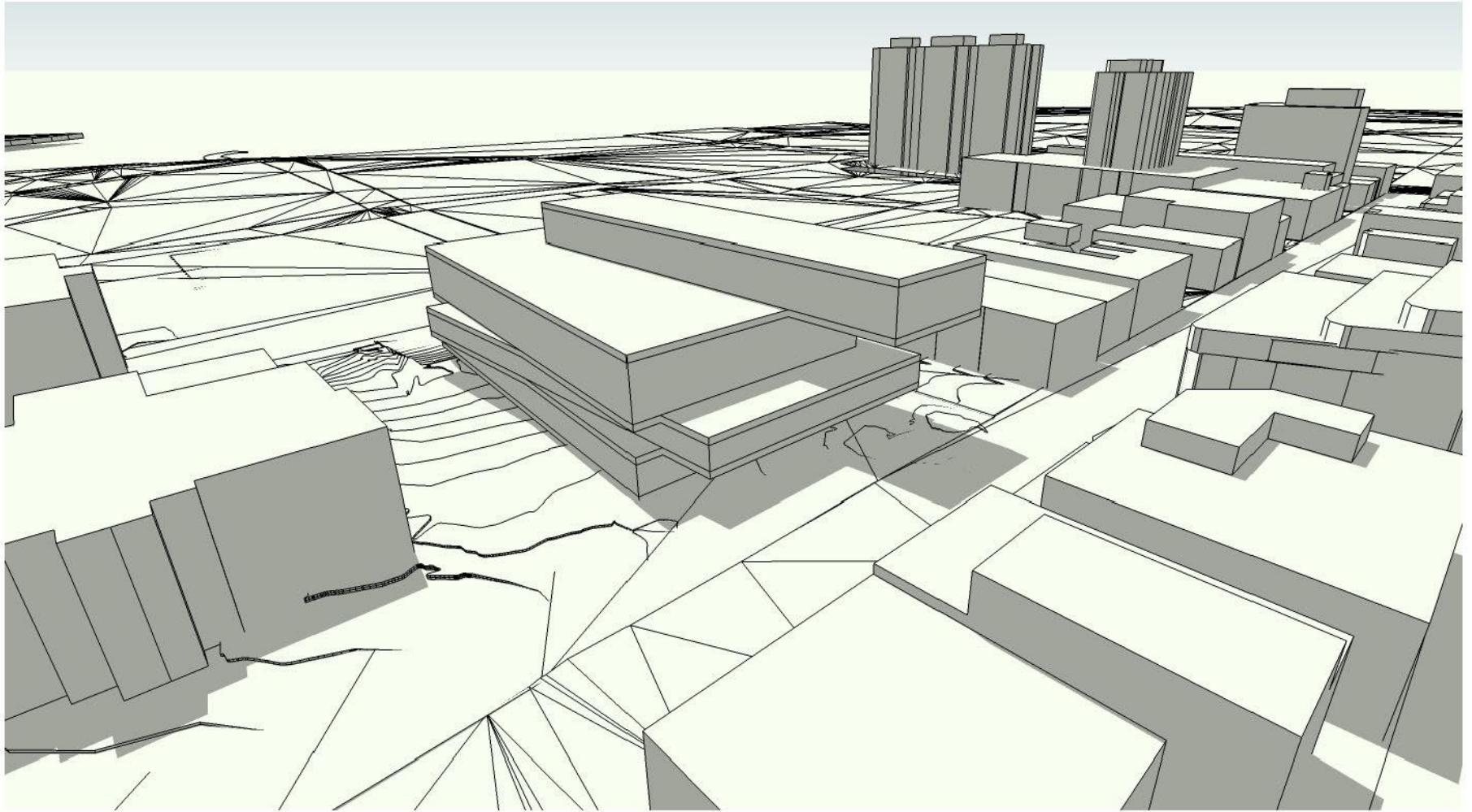




**February 1800**

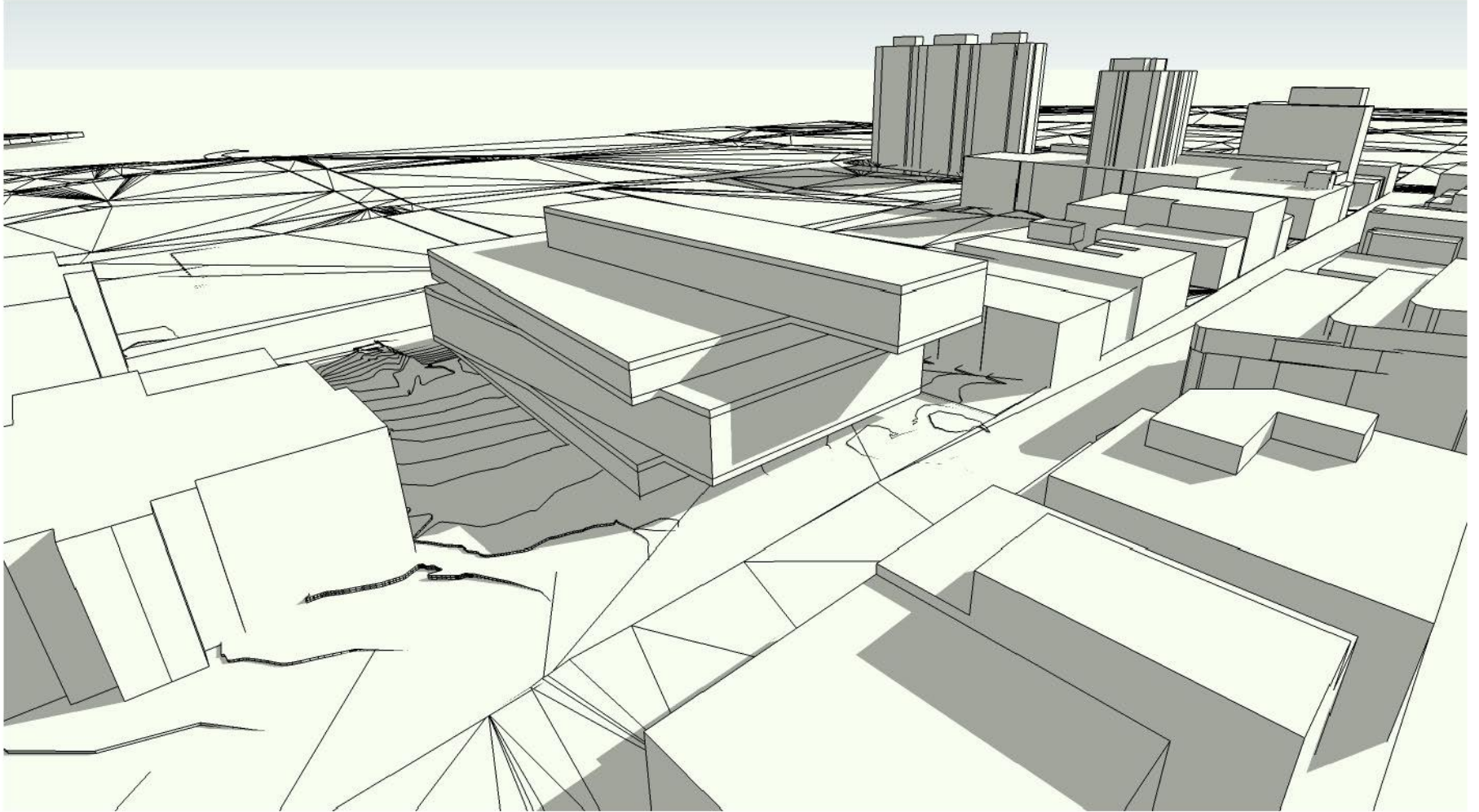


**June 0900**



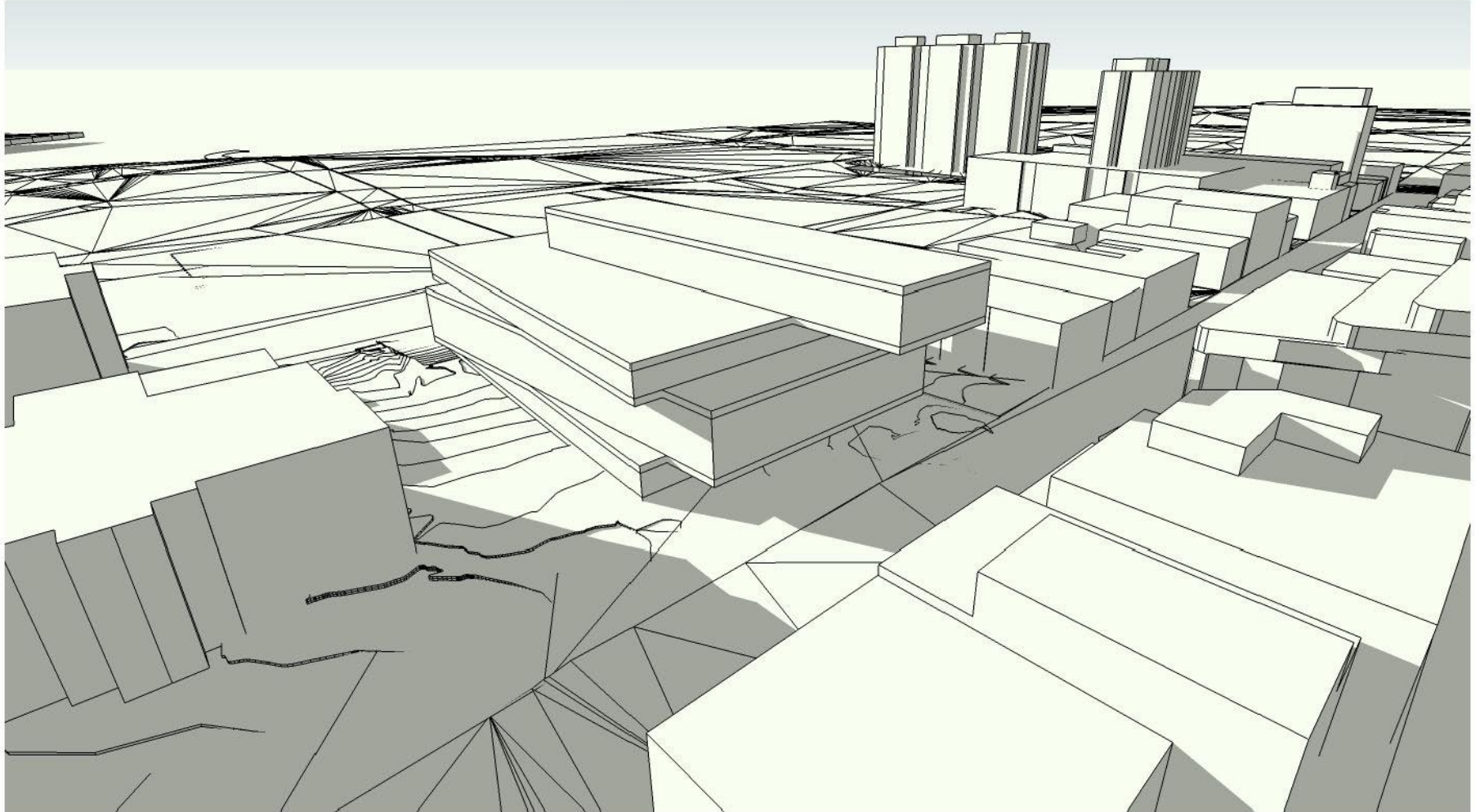
**June 1200**



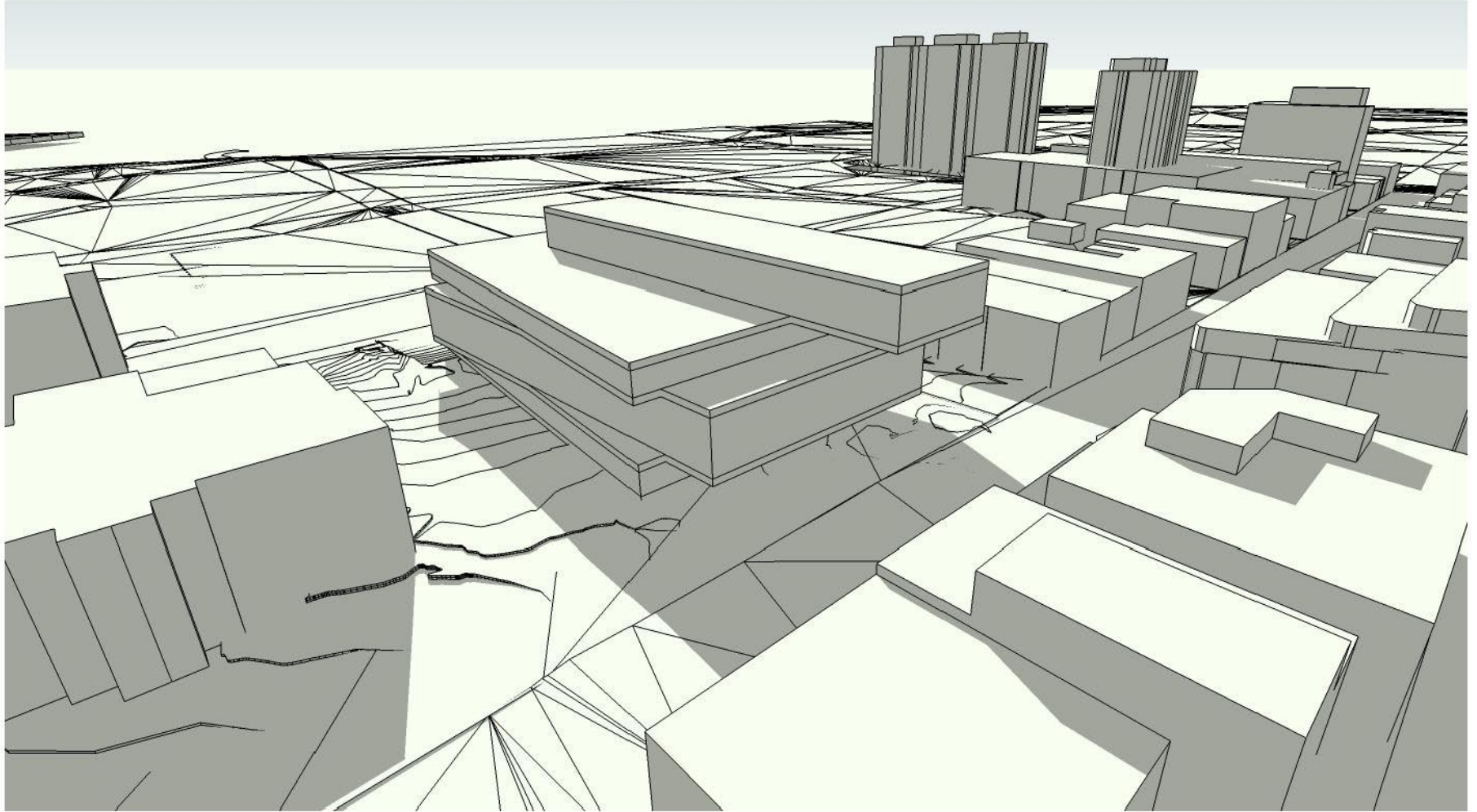


**June 1800**

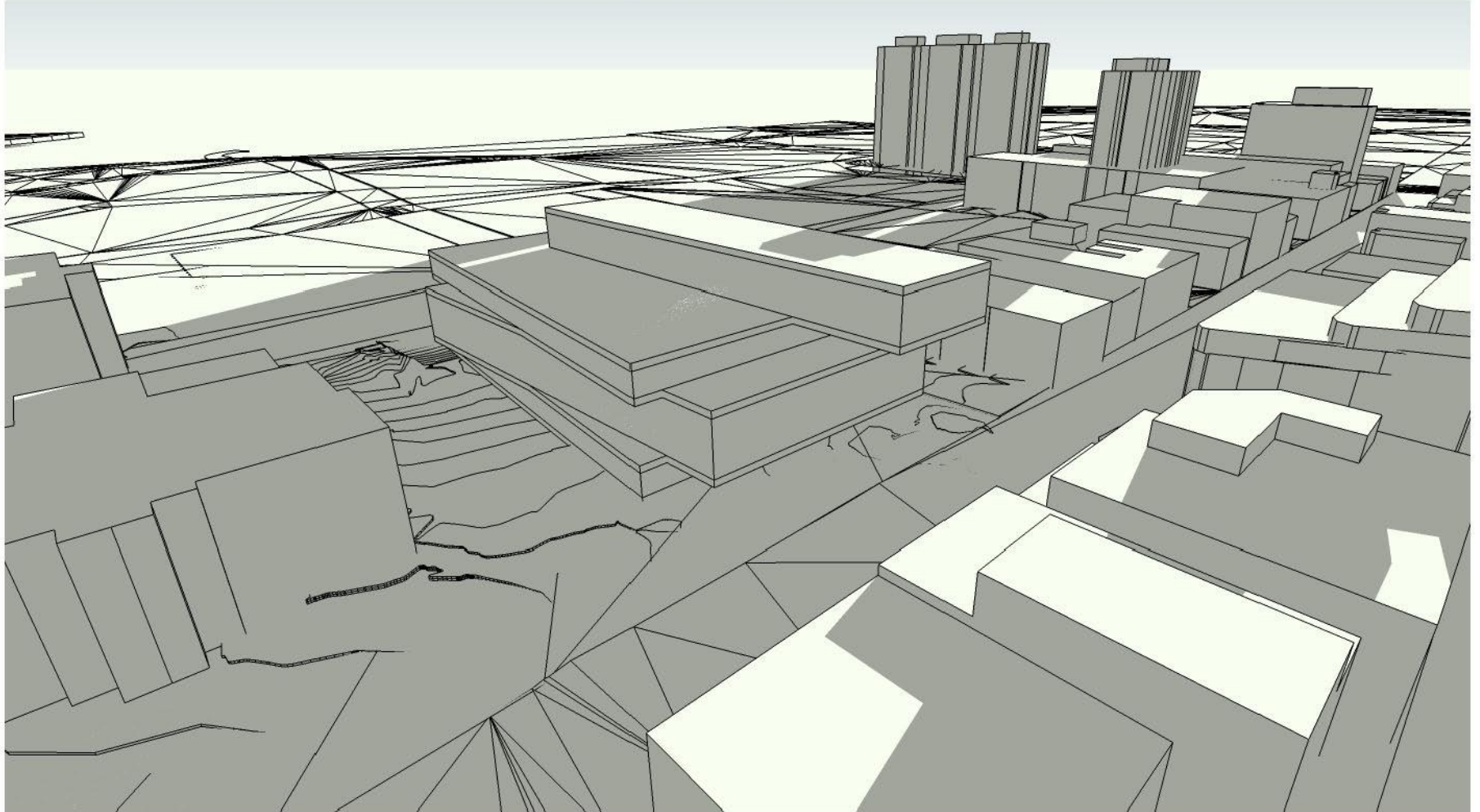




**November 0900**



**November 1200**



**November 1800**

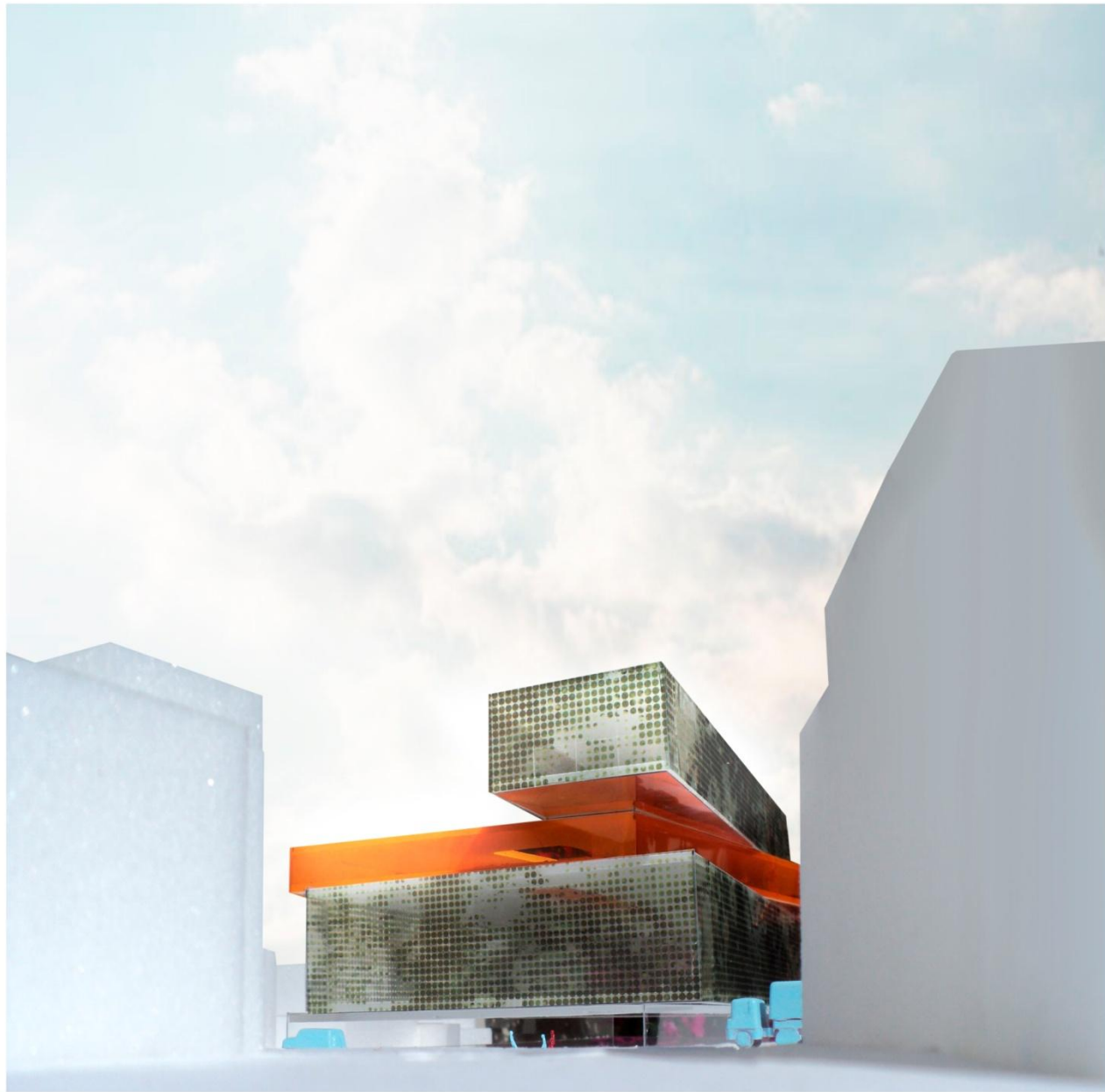








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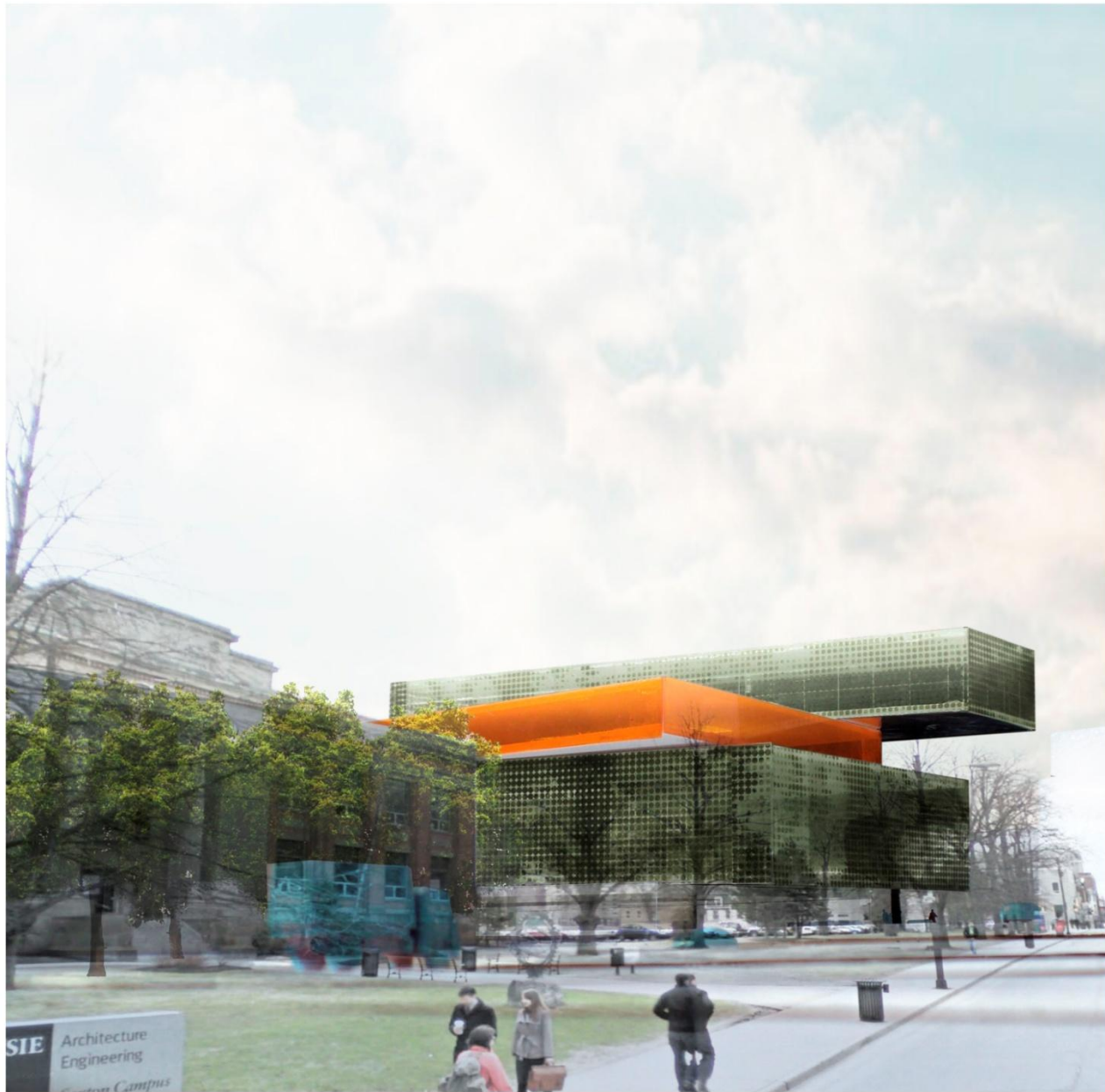




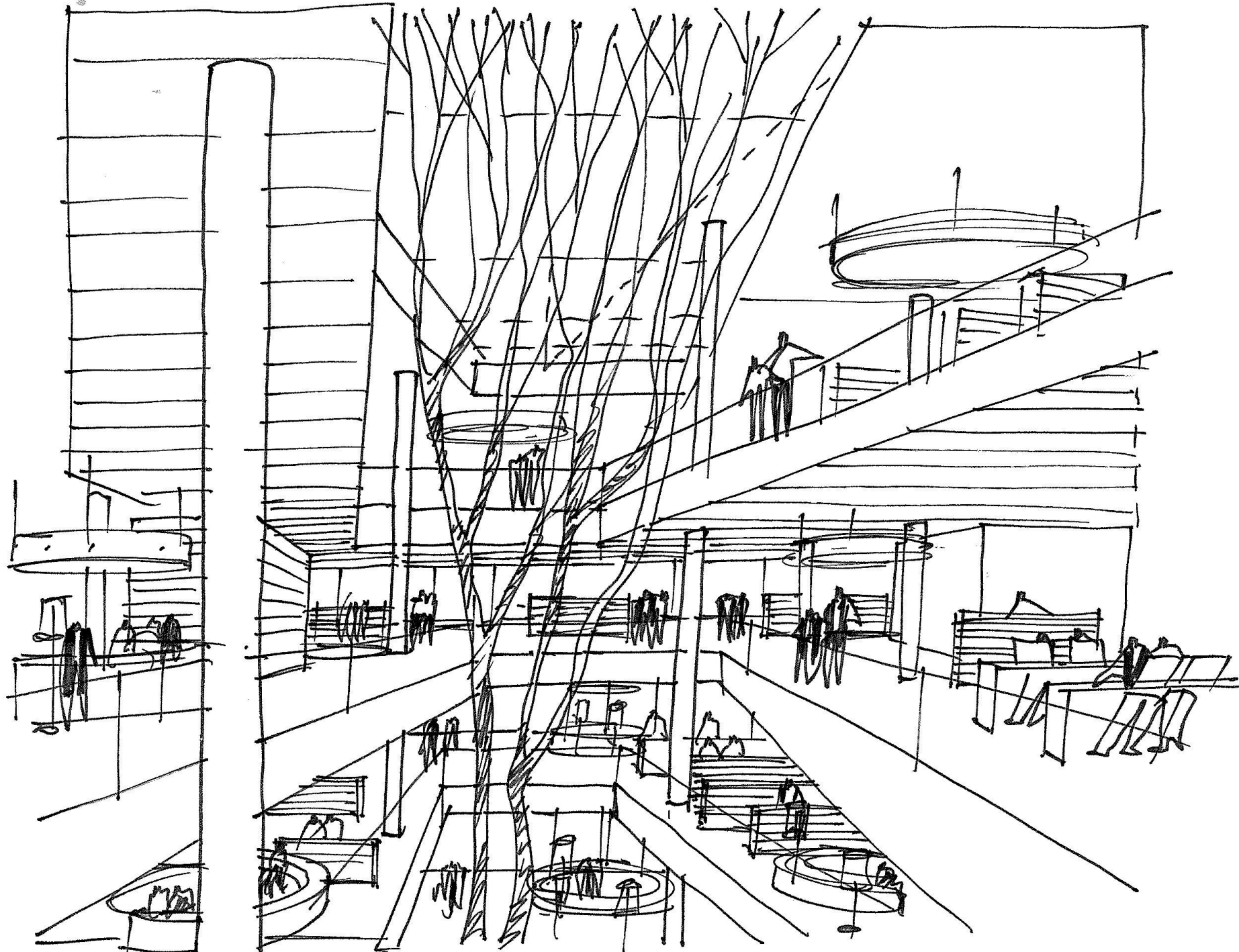




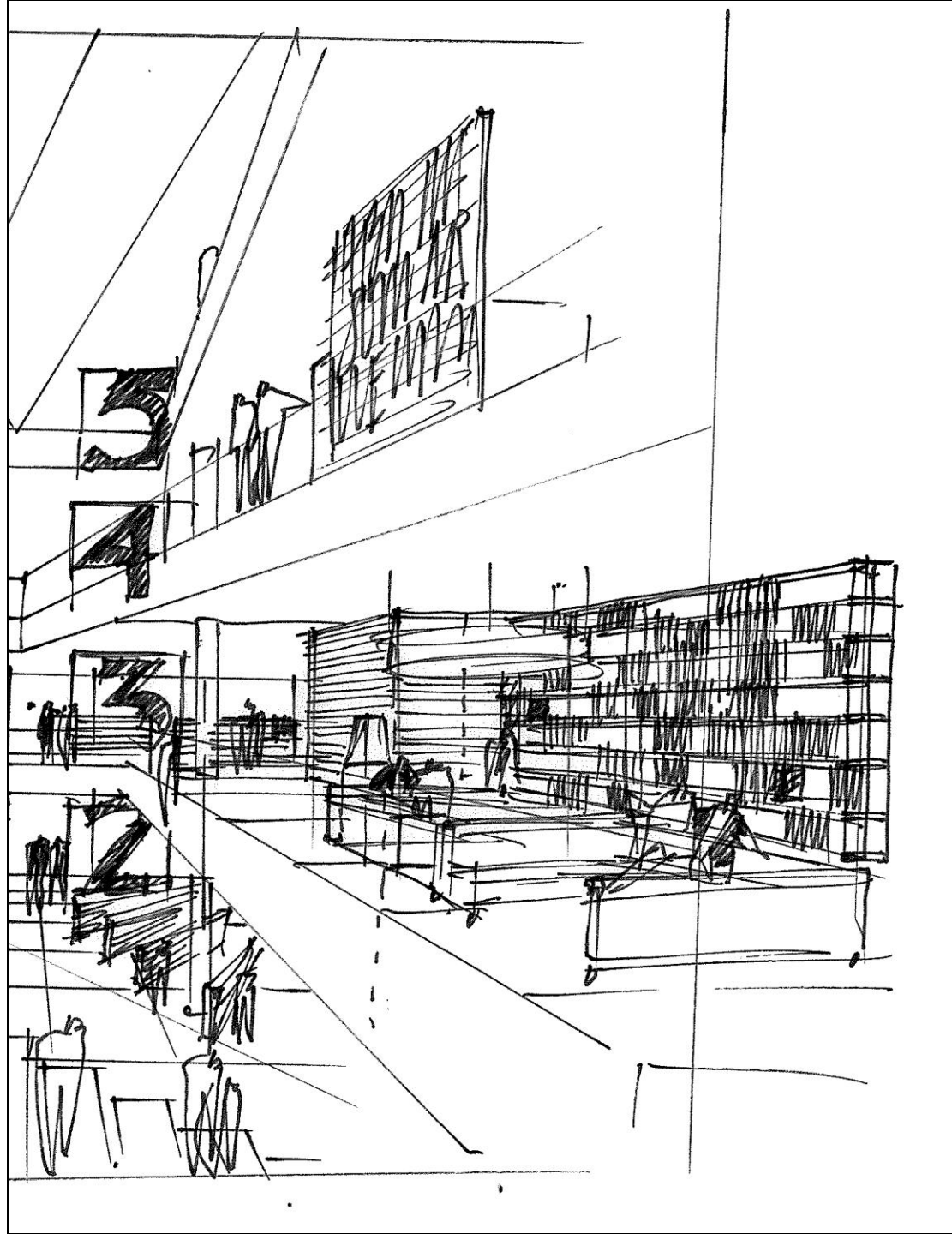




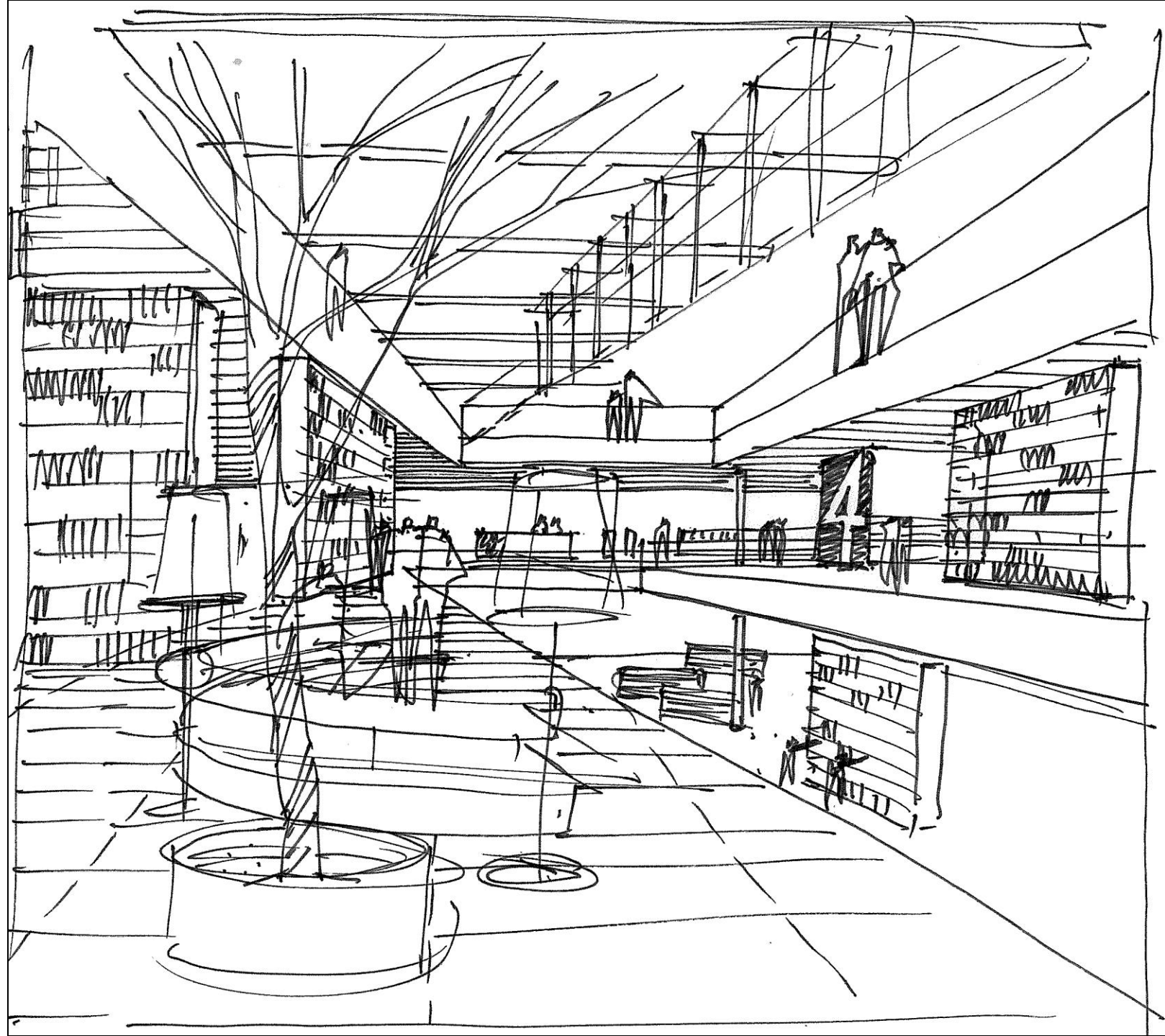


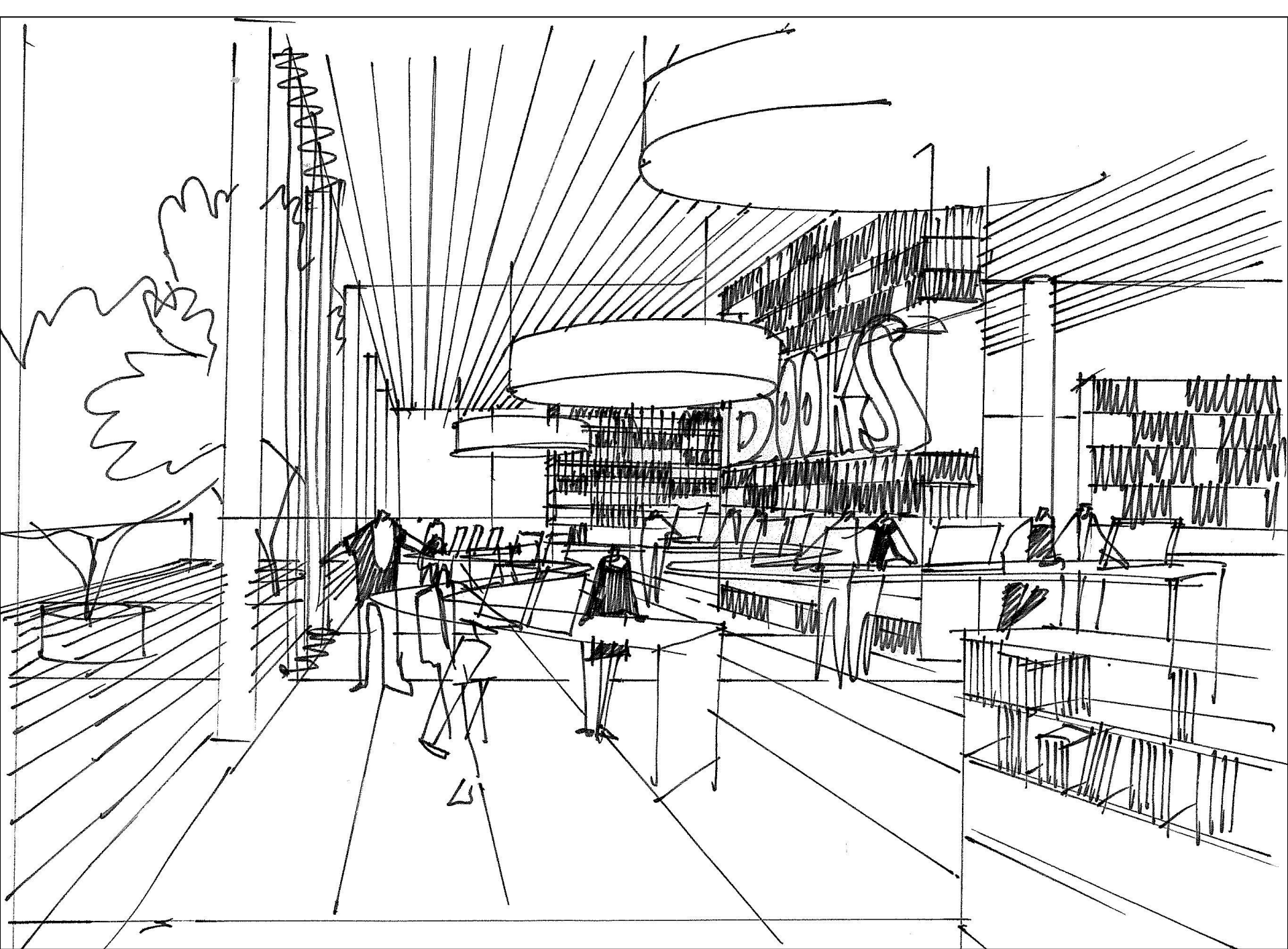








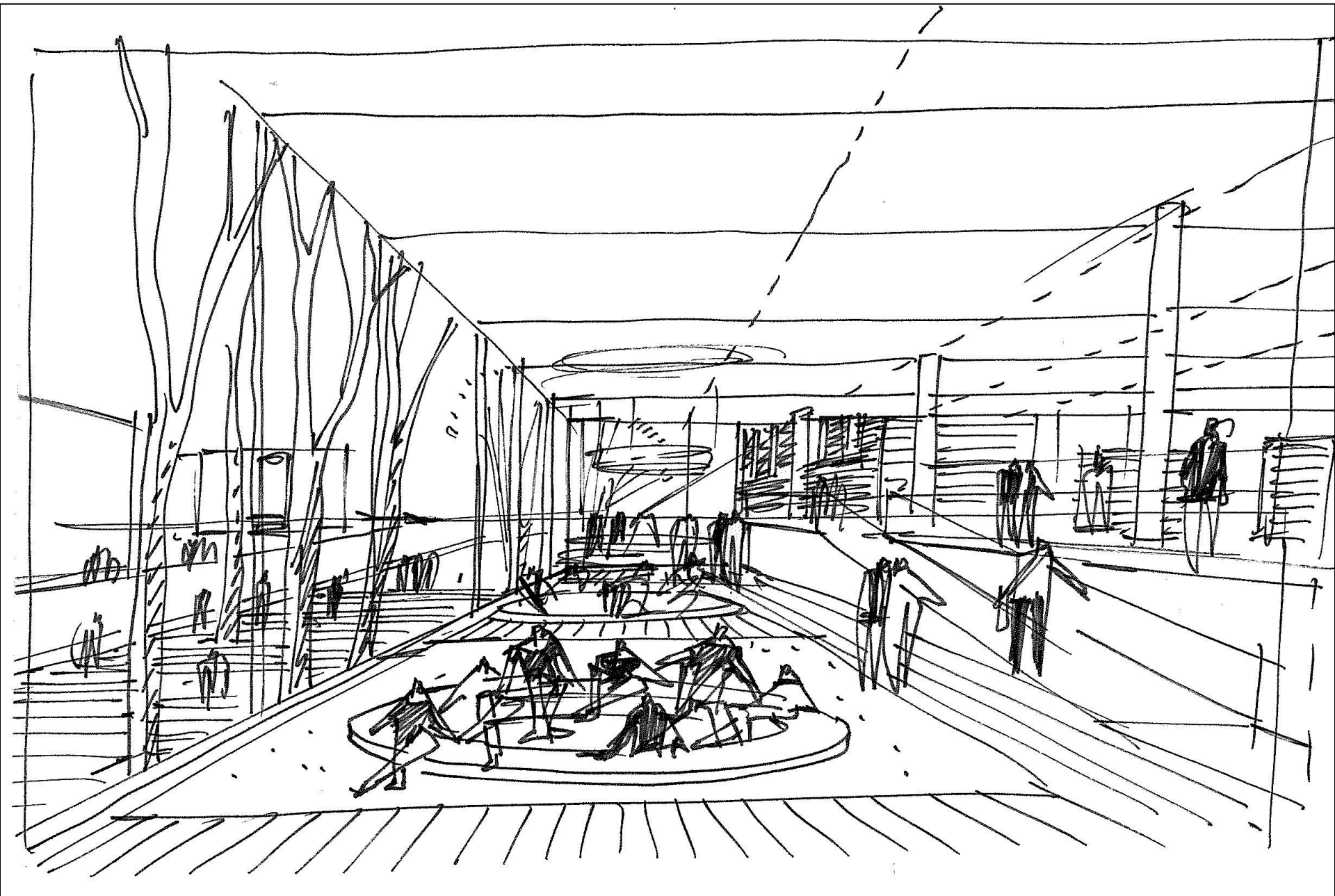




















What are your questions  
for the architects?



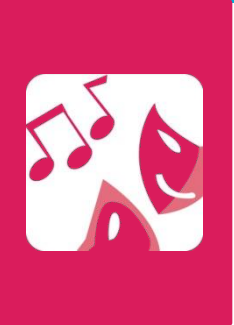
What is your advice as  
we move forward?

# Thank you!

**Come join us again:**

- **September 30**  
World Trade & Convention Centre
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Pier 21





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